

Educational Supplement

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Projecting a better image

I wonder what, if anything, the DES is going to do about the devastating fall in applications for teacher training places. Although some publicity has been given to the overall drop, I attended a meeting where we were given the very latest figures for all subjects.

Most damning of all is the position in maths and science. Last year by May there had been 4,347 postgraduate applicants. The figure this year is 3,235, a drop of over a quarter. What is worse is that the present cohort of 21 and 22-year-olds is one of the lowest since the early 1960s. When in a few years the numbers of 18 to 22-year-olds fall like a stone, there will be an insuperable problem recruiting teachers for schools. One in five or even one in four of all the higher education output will need to enter teaching if schools are to be staffed properly. It will not be achieved.

The two most influential factors, poor salaries and low morale, are well known to students. The present postgraduate group in my own university, some of the best people of their generation, walked around the campus looking pole-axed last week. Having recently returned from teaching practice and seen the degree of demoralization in staffrooms at first hand, they had just heard a talk on salaries and conditions of service and realized they would have the princely sum of £85 per week take-home pay in September, less than many have earned selling ice cream in the vacation.

The DES will probably have to produce a new recruiting film. I know they have already done a "Come-Back-Murdered-Woman-All-I-For-give" or "It's a Great Life in the Primary School" spectacular which I have not yet seen, but which, like to fantasize, probably begins MGM style with Sir Monty Python putting his head through a paper hoop and snarling, followed by Dimbo Dunn swinging through primary classrooms dressed in a leotard. It would be an even greater life if young teachers did not have to face years of relative poverty compared with many of their fellow graduates. At present only the totally dedicated are coming forward.

An earful of marshmallow

I have never had much time for bureaucracies, and even less patience when I have had to phone one. You feel such a willy saying "Hello, is that the DES?" It always reminds me of that memorable moment in the *Goon Show* when Spike Milligan sailed up the Thames and said, "Hands up England!"

Moreover, it seems to be my misfortune instead of being connected to one of the many capable and informative people I know who work at the DES, to be put on to some minor official like the Speaking Clock. "At the third stroke I shall talk utter piffle - pip, pip, pip." One has great sympathy with G K Chesterton who mocked the whole genre by concluding any reply to the Inland Revenue with, "You remain, sir, my obedient servant".

On this occasion a query which should have been innocuous was made complex and problematic by the talking parrot on the other end of the line. "A number of factors will be taken into account, drone, drone, and it is by no

means certain, drivel, drivel, when decisions have been taken, garbage, garbage, you will know the Department's position, blah, blah". Of course I know the Department's position, little sunbeam. The Department, like most large bureaucracies, has more positions than the *Kama Sutra*, so it hires marshmallows like you to make meaningless noises to punters like me, squish, squish.

My Exeter colleague Professor Richard Pring has just had a similar experience. Back in January he ran a course on technical and pre-vocational education for teachers. Moments later, in mid-May, he has received a letter from the DES giving approval for the course to go ahead. Supposing he hadn't got approval for the course, we speculated. Would he have had to rush round schools telling teachers to forget everything they had learned?

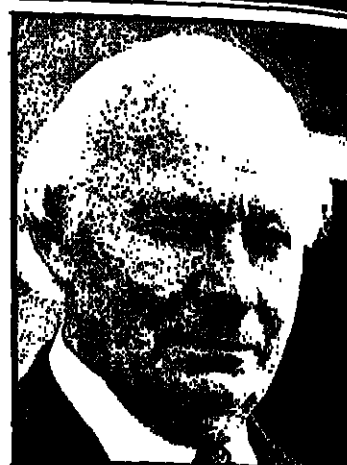
Think of the thrill of knowing that you were in possession of illicit knowledge that had not been approved by the DES. You would remember it forever.

Who needs Dallas?

Teachers in the South West are waiting eagerly to see what will happen now that the politicians in the various hung councils are firming up their alliances. In Devon there is some hope that a new education committee will be less hawkish towards teachers. Although the outgoing Conservative administration did give a high priority to protecting teachers' jobs, the level of resourcing in schools was miserable, with shared textbooks and equipment commonplace.

What worried teachers far more, however, was the repressive style of the previous committee. Heads were carpeted if they wrote to the press from their school address, teachers were banned from wearing CND badges, an election rose which rebounded badly, and teachers who signed a petition were investigated. It was highly sinister and many middle-of-the-road Devonians did not like it.

Most hilarious of all was the sight of the outgoing Conservatives, unable to believe they had lost control, trying frantically to do a deal first with the



Out of favour: outgoing education chairman Ted Wragg.

Liberal/SDP Alliance and then with Labour. There must have been a roaring trade amongst theatrical shops in false beards and dark glasses. At 7.30pm one night the Conservative leader and deputy were seen toddling obediently behind the lady who headed the Labour group, only to skulk out about an hour later with no deal and no power. The reason I see all these events is because both the Liberal and Labour leaders work in the same department as me and watching developments beats Dallas any day of the week.

Newham CEO under renewed pressure to quit

by Mike Durham

Councillors in Newham, London have been invited to submit complaints against their chief education officer, Mr James Pailing, in an attempt to force his resignation.

Mr Pailing, aged 40, has already been offered £25,000 to resign because of what a majority of councillors called a "loss of confidence". But no specific allegations have ever been put to Mr

Pailing, who has refused to resign for five months. Now Mr Fred Jones, new leader of the Labour-controlled council, has written to every councillor asking them to submit complaints in writing and "in the strictest confidence".

The emphasis on secrecy would, it is thought, allow councillors to make any allegations about Mr Pailing's personal

conduct without fear of legal action. Mr Jones says in his letter: "In order to protect members from extraneous legal action I advise that any information transmitted to me should be closely guarded from any person who would not be 'privileged' to see it."

However, Mr Pailing's supporters believe that his opponents are seeking allegations of a personal nature which would make it easier for them to dismiss him. The main complaint by councillors is believed to be of professional mismanagement, which Mr Pailing denies. This week neither Mr Pailing nor Mr Jones would comment on the development.

No let-up on spending curbs despite school decay

by Biddy Passmore

Local authority leaders pleaded with environment ministers last week for greater freedom to spend their own funds on new buildings and major repairs to housing and schools.

Ministers agreed that the present system of controlling capital spending must be changed. But, at the Treasury's insistence, they were unable to promise any immediate let-up in the present tight controls.

The crumbling, vandalized state of England's schools was the most urgent problem to emerge from last week's annual spending survey by Her Majesty's Inspectors.

In unusually outspoken terms, the inspectors said that years of under-spending on repairs and maintenance had produced a "grim environment" for many schoolchildren. Some schools were fast approaching the stage where repairs were impossible and new buildings would have to be provided.

They judged that one in five lessons in secondary schools and one in four special schools was being adversely affected by poor accommodation. Mrs Frances Morrell, leader of the Inner London Education Authority, said that, along with the Government's Victorian values, HM Inspectors had revealed the Dickensian conditions that existed in many of the country's schools.

She called for a "massive building programme" and an increase in funds to L.E.A.s to repair the damage. Condemnation also came from teachers' leaders, who blamed Government spending cuts for the state of school buildings.

But Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, quoted the recent report by the Audit Commission which suggested that councils should find the money for renovation and repairs through savings in cleaning and caretaking, higher charges for services and further sales of under-used assets.

The report shows that overall provision of resources improved slightly last year but says bluntly that the level is unlikely to permit schools to make changes in the curriculum and raise standards.

Full details page 12.

Bristol research shows long-term advantages of early education

Findings back case for pre-school

by Sarah Bayliss

Research commissioned by the Department of Education shows conclusively that children who have had some form of pre-school education subsequently achieve higher academic scores than pupils with no pre-school experience.

The evidence, as yet unpublished, reveals that pre-school education in a wide range of playgroups, day nurseries, nursery schools and classes, gives children from all social backgrounds a marked educational advantage up to the age of 10. Children from playgroups did particularly well.

This important finding, which will give the British pre-school lobby the strongest weapon it has ever had, is based on the experiences of a cohort of

differences, we find that children who have had a pre-school education do seem to have a significant edge over those who don't. It was particularly encouraging to see that children from day nurseries were among those with improved academic results at the age of 10. By tradition day nurseries take only the most socially deprived children; places are usually full-time in fairly institutional surroundings.

"What we've seen is that day nurseries offer some sort of stimulation outside the home which gives children an intellectual advantage which they wouldn't otherwise have had."

All forms of pre-school - with the exception of day nurseries - also produced improved behaviour and less hyperactivity in children, but this effect was slight compared with the marked improvement in academic attainment. Playgroups and independent nursery schools had the most positive influence on children.

Professor Butler pointed out that while 70 per cent of white collar workers' children attended playgroups, 30 per cent of semi-skilled and unskilled workers' children also attended them, and all groups showed improved attainments. The research team was conscious that it had not been able to account for "good parenting" which may in part explain the success of playgroups, which tend to demand more involvement by parents.

Until now all previous research in Britain on the effects of pre-school education has proved inconclusive.

But in America, there has been growing optimism about the effects of "extremely encouraging" for Britain's pre-school system. "After allowing for all sorts of social and environmental

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Platform

Professor Bill Wallace on why the newly-disbanded Advisory Committee of Teachers will be sorely missed 4

Do-it-yourself

A first school where children get on with it without help 19

Copy book

Fifty years on, Marion Richardson's (right) pioneering work on handwriting is still going strong 20

NAHT opens ranks to deputy heads

by Richard Garner

The 21,000-strong National Association of Head Teachers had decided to follow its main rival - the Secondary Heads Association - in allowing deputy head to join its ranks.

The decision was taken in private session at the NAHT's annual conference in Scarborough this week with the support of the union's leadership.

For years, the NAHT has shied

away from allowing deputies to join its ranks - believing that their greater numbers could lead to them swamping heads in the union.

However, the teacher union recruitment war has heated up over the last 12 months - and the SHA found its members grew from 3,000 to 4,500 when it took a similar decision last year.

In the NAHT's case, the potential for recruitment is far greater since it recruits from all schools.

However, the decision comes too late to have any impact on the review of teacher representation on the Burnham Committee announced earlier this month by Sir Keith Joseph.

NAHT conference page 5.

Books in class

History

Arts/Books

Why teach Eng Lit? Nicholas Shrimpton traces the current controversy back to its distant historical origins: Professor Hannah Steinberg on juvenile drug addiction; Steve Grant on Orosowski's *Poor*; Thea; Robin Buss on television; John James on theatre 22-27

Resources/Media

Andrew Rothery on MICE in the primary school; Hugh David on Channel 4's educational programmes; and reviews of *Middle English* and *The Longest Running Show on Earth* 28-30

EXTRA

Health Education: preventive education on heart disease, smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, plus attitudes to sex and a homage to the school nurse 31-39

NOTICEBOARD

PEOPLE...

Mrs Allison Groom, head of the sixth form at Merchant Taylors' school for girls, Crosby, to be head of Helme grammar school for girls, Oldham from September.
Mrs Deldre Kay, deputy head of Blittem Park school, Southampton, to be head of Richards Lodge high school for girls, Wimbledon.
Mrs Barbara Shaw, deputy head of Grey Coat hospital school, ILEA, to be head of Bacon's school, Bermondsey.
Dr Noel Booden, senior lecturer in the department of sociology, University of Liverpool, has been appointed to the William Roscoe Chair of Continuing Education.
Colin Blott to be director for inservice education at Sunderland Polytechnic's faculty of education.
Mr Chris Senior, associate director, training and development at Sedwick Insurance Brokers, London, to be national coordinator for the 10 regional development PICKUP agents.
Frank Griffiths, senior lecturer in health studies at Teesside Polytechnic, to be NATE's new education secretary, in succession to Janet Rees, who has become vice-principal of South West London College.

fee - £3. Details: Dr Leslie Simwadana, Birmingham Community Relations Council, 021-235 4097.
June 11 Posing Achievement: a conference to review approaches in developing records of achievement (for personnel and training officers in industry and commerce, local authority education advisers, heads of schools and heads of department in colleges of further education). Details: Education for Industrial Society, Robert Hyde House, 48 Brynston Square, London W1.
June 18 Standing Committee for the Education and Training of Teachers conference on "Special Education Needs" at the Camden Westminster Teachers Centre, London NW1. Details from SCETT, 4th Floor Hamilton House, Mableton Place, London WC1H 9BH.
June 20 Council for Education in World Citizenship sixth form conference on Japan Today at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. Applications by June 7 to CEWC, 19-21 Tudor Street, London EC4A 0DD.

COURSES...

June 15 English Speaking Board course for teaching and assessing oral skills in the sixth form, at Ellismere College Arts Centre, Ellismere, Shropshire, to demonstrate the ESSE Certificate in Spoken English for Higher Education for sixth form students. Details from the Secretary, ESS, 32 Roe Lane, Southport, Merseyside.

June 19-20 Child Assault Prevention Programme workshop on "Preventing Child Sexual Assault" at the Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH. Speakers include Michele Elliott, Dr Tony Baker and Richard Johnson. Fee £50. Details from CAP, 30 Windsor Court, Moscow Road, London W2 enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.
July 2-5 A two-day programme for psychologists organized by the Specialist Society on "The Special Needs of Children and Adolescents with Physical and Communication Disorders" at Castle Priory College, Wallingford, Oxfordshire. Tuition fee is £43, accommodation £37. Applications as soon as possible to Leslie Gardner, Principal Psychologist, Castle Priory College, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE.
July 5-7 International Stress and Tension Control Society (UK Branch) summer weekend workshop at the University of Leicester. Details from D P Morgan, 21 Stockwell Road, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3PN.

EVENTS...

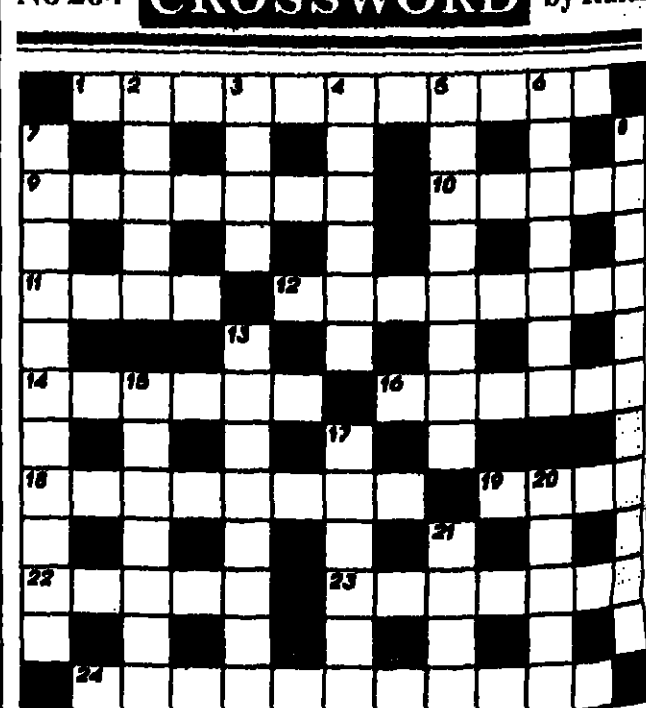
June 5 "Evaluating the Secondary School" is the title of a talk by Mr D Oakden, chief inspector for Solihull at Belvoir comprehensive school, Newport, Gwent at 5.30pm. Details from the deputy head, Mr R Jones, at the school.
June 13 "Working with Bereaved Children" is the title of a lecture to be given by Patricia Goldacre at the

Tavistock Centre, Lecture Room 4, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 at 7pm organized by the Forum for the Advancement of Educational Therapy. Guests are welcome.
June 20 "Culture and Computers in the Mathematics Classroom" is the inaugural lecture by Celia Hoyles, Professor of Mathematics Education, at the University of London Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1 at 5.30pm. Admission is free and without ticket.
June 22 Tapton School will be celebrating its 25th anniversary. Former staff wishing to attend should contact Mrs Helen Hilton, chairman of the Staffroom Committee, as soon as possible.
July 5 An evening of popular lectures in the Mechanical Engineering Lecture Theatre, Imperial College, London SW7 on "Discovering mathematics with the computer" by Professor R Churchouse at 7.30pm and on "Mathematics and the Law" by Professor D Lindley at 9pm. Admission is free by ticket obtainable in advance from Miss S Oakes, London Mathematical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0BN by June 28 enclosing a stamped-addressed envelope.

INFORMATION

Janica Webb is compiling a book of teaching anecdotes relating to classroom incidents, staffroom conversations and so on. Contributions, which will be treated confidentially, should be sent to 57 Canadian Avenue, Hodge, Chester CH2 3HQ.

No 204 CROSSWORD by Rufus



Across

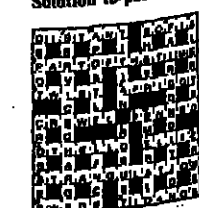
1 Labour leader may give the password (4,7)
9 Complex King of Thebes (7)
10 One of five is unaccountable (5)
11 An act of duplicity (7)
12 Girl belittled is without mercy (8)
14 Taken out from the Red Sea (6)
16 This locale is local (6)
18 A criminal picked up in response to a telephone call (8)
19 School will returned (4)
22 Tree break about six good shows (5)

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2 It limits the field to leisure against betting losses (5)
3 Piano compositions played nowadays (4)
4 An even chance the matador will try to avoid (6)
5 Be careful, the limekeeper's incorrect (5,3)
6 Philosopher writes new slurs about the Spanish (7)
7 Frozen to the core? (4,7)

Supports inferior goods (7)

24 Capacity of certain chaps in the new team (11)
8 Deep affection (4,8)
13 Articles about concerts (8)
15 Attribute makes a writer (7)
17 An exceptionally warm spring (6)
20 Fitting end for a piece of wood (6)
21 The lowest sort of people, but always found at the top (4)
Solution to puzzle on p. 20



مركز الأمل

False economy and penny-pinching

The HMI's annual survey of "the effects of expenditure policies on education provision" (page 12) provides another snapshot of an education system with glaring weaknesses, many of them made worse by inadequate funding or the failure to apply existing funds most effectively. For the second time, the Inspectorate have tried to link their observation of the schools' resources to their assessment of the quality of the education they provide. Again they scotch the canard that the quality of schooling is wholly determined by non-material factors:

Complex as the relationship is between levels of resources and quality of work, the fact that there is a link between them is clear. The conditions necessary for work of high quality include more and better resources than, to avoid waste and be most effective, are targeted on agreed priorities and allied with improved leadership and management; a closer match of the initial qualification and experience of teachers with the tasks they are now asked to undertake; and more effective INSET better matched to the needs of schools and teachers. All these cost money and none is cheap.

If you remove the layers of wrapping in which the inspectors feel obliged to present their findings the facts remain as common sense would lead you to expect: resources by themselves don't

guarantee good teaching, but teachers cannot do a decent job without enough resources. In their rather bland way, they found about a quarter of the schools they had visited came up to the extremely modest definition of "satisfactory" which they use on these occasions. "Satisfactory or better" covers a whole gamut from barely tolerable to superlatively good. If HMI decide for the purpose of this survey that something is unsatisfactory you can depend upon it it's pretty bad.

(Had Her Majesty's Inspectorate been assessing the *Titanic* at the time of the disaster it is a safe bet that their considered judgement would have been that 75 per cent of the ship was satisfactory or better, while 25 per cent was going down by the stern.)

There is nothing in this report, however, to be complacent about. Sir Keith Joseph has tried to wring what satisfaction he can from some "slight improvements in resource provision" but as the schools visited each year are not a proper sample it is not possible to use this survey to measure minor changes from one year to another. Nevertheless, the survey suggests there was a slight improvement in the provision of books, but it also notes that all this is relative, depending on the base-line: "in many schools they have to choose between replacing old stock or equipping themselves with the books needed to introduce necessary new courses." The fact that the cost of educational books is rising faster than the Retail Price Index means that much talk about preserv-

ing spending power "in real terms" is misleading. The most serious indictment is reserved for the "deteriorating quality and appropriateness" of the educational environment. Here HMI echo a recent report of the Audit Commission which spoke of a £500 million backlog of maintenance and repairs.

This gave Sir Keith his ready response: more money for maintenance could be saved from the caretaking budget. The retention in use of some surplus buildings does undoubtedly entail some costs, including costs of caretaking and maintenance, but as everyone (including the Minister) knows, there are intractable political reasons for doubting whether the Audit Commission's advice in this respect is ever going to be fully implemented. And in the meantime, many neglected buildings probably need more caretaking and cleaning, not less.

The survey refers to the replacement value of the buildings—£17.5 billion—and says that some schools are reaching the stage where "repairs are impossible and new buildings may have to be provided." Failing to maintain buildings is such a notorious form of penny-pinching and false economy that there can be nobody in local or central government who defends it on economic grounds. What the inspectors have done is demonstrate the totally avoidable damage it does to the quality of schooling.

The point needs to be hammered home. It is common ground that the quality of teachers and teaching is of the highest importance. This quality

is in part, a matter of morale. Working in decaying conditions, amid peeling paint, under leaking roofs, unable to get defects repaired let alone improvements undertaken, is one of the most widespread complaints from teachers. As time goes by, working in a poor environment becomes more and more depressing and less and less conducive to high morale and the enthusiasm which lights up enthusiasm in others.

There is no escaping the issue of morale. Leadership is only part of the answer. The survey found a disquietingly large number of schools where the leadership was inadequate and there may need to be spring cleaning in more ways than one. But good leadership has to be even better if spirits have to be raised in poor working conditions which betray the evidence of past and present neglect.

Teachers who are seconded to work in industry and commerce frequently (and bitterly) contrast the cleanliness, smartness and comfort of a modern office block with the institutionalised shabbiness of most schools (and, again, remember that many of those recorded by the Inspector as just "satisfactory" are only satisfactory by the education system's own deplorably low standards). Commerce knows that people work better in a decent environment. So, too, do educational administrators and their elected masters. But the perennial attempt to get education on the cheap continues, at the expense of underpaid teachers who are expected to work in varying gradations of genteel squalor.

COMMENT

Eng Lit in crisis

What role should literary criticism have in British secondary education? Twenty years ago the answer would have been obvious—a central one. From humble origins as a second-rate substitute for classics, English Literature had risen to become the key arts subject, the humane discipline at the heart of non-scientific sixth form life. Today the question begins to look rather more difficult. On the one hand we have seen the advent of the English Language and Literature A level, with its implication that Business English rather than Literary English is what the modern school leaver needs. On the other, as Nicholas Shrimpton explains on pages 22-23, English literary criticism is itself in the throes of a painful debate about its role and status.

One response to this "crisis in criticism" is, of course, to greet it as a sign of the subject's vitality. Just when the assumptions and procedures established by the Cambridge English School of the 1920s began to seem wearisome or worn out, new schools of thought have risen to question and replace them. Scrutinisers are giving place to deconstructors. A new generation of English teachers will emerge from the universities to spread a new kind of literary enthusiasm.

The trouble with this optimistic scenario is that it assumes the new New Criticism to be of the same tone and temper as the old. The theory prompted by T S Eliot, formulated by I A Richards, and disseminated with charismatic vigour by F R Leavis, was positive, self-confident and clear. It not only knew what you should do with literature (close reading, the tracing of tradition, a common pursuit of true judgement), but also had firm views on why doing such things was so important.

The new school of thought, however, lacks these positive characteristics. At best it

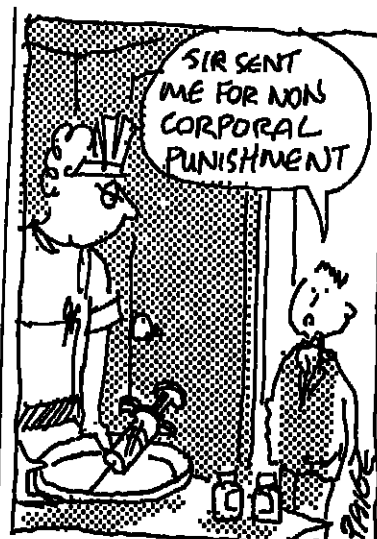
is self-doubting, relativist and technically severe. At worst it is downright "academic" and obscurantist. Within universities it may help to reassure English dons nervous about the intellectual rigour and professional status of their subject. But it is scarcely a missionary creed. Without the clarity and moral confidence which carried Leavis's brand of literary criticism into the classrooms of the nation, will it ever reach out beyond the universities?

It is tempting to add "without an F R Leavis". His views may now seem eccentric, dated or theoretically incoherent. But it is impossible to deny his inspirational effect on generations of remarkable school teachers. Like any other form of literary criticism, post-structuralist analysis is only as exciting as the critic who conducts it. With the old certainties gone, and with no post-structuralist Leavis available to shape the new breed of committed teachers, English Literature in the sixth form could be in danger of losing its way.

Chance for the Lords

When the universally unloved Education (Corporal Punishment) Bill reaches its crucial Committee stage in the House of Lords on Tuesday (page 10) the Government's credibility will again be put to the test in the face of their Lordships' lively and independent-minded scepticism.

This is not like the London Bill or the rate-capping legislation—bad law which everyone recognizes to be of the first importance. This is just "silly" (Lord Stewart), "dotty" (the doctest bill that I can recall in 35 years in Parliament" (Lord Houghton)). The matter in question is not, let's face it, the most important to come before either House of Parliament. It is not, as Lord Mulley recognized, "a terribly



important Bill". But this is not, in itself, a reason why their sensible Lordships should be expected to collude in a barmy Bill which would never have got through the House of Commons if the whips had not persuaded Conservative back-benchers briefly to suspend their disbelief for the sake of a quiet life.

The crux of the Bill is the provision for two classes of pupils—one subject to corporal punishment, the other not—existing side by side in schools where the cane continues to be used.

Opinions in the House of Lords, as elsewhere, on the rights and wrongs of corporal punishment differ; but on the rights and wrongs of a system which might require two children in the same class, guilty of the same offence, to be punished differently, there is very little difference of opinion. It is manifestly ridiculous. When she introduced the Bill, Lady Cox, like Sir Keith Joseph, bravely swept this to one side in the confidence that sensible and fair-minded teachers would do their best to see that no flagrant injustice was done. So they would. But in so doing they would be nullifying a law in which unfairness is not an incidental, but an essential, element.

Another absurd anomaly concerns Scotland, which is also brought under

this Bill, although corporal punishment is being phased out there with the Secretary of State's encouragement. In Scotland the decision on whether 16 and 17-year-olds are to be subject to the cane (or whatever) will rest with the 16 and 17-year-olds themselves: in England, it will be taken by their parents. No amount of specious talk about the differences between Scots and English law and practice can justify this anomaly. If this crazy Bill is to go through at all, the least their Lordships can do is to give English and Welsh 16 and 17-year-olds the same treatment as the Scots. (They might also insert a clause requiring any 16 or 17-year-old who volunteers for corporal punishment to undergo psychiatric treatment.)

What is needed from their Lordships, however, is not a bit of tinkering but an old-fashioned wrecking amendment which will kill the Bill and force the Government to take the responsibility for the ending of corporal punishment in schools, which in its muddled and barely honest way this Bill tries to shuffle off to others.

Meanwhile, the list of I.C.E.S. planning to ban the cane is growing. The present Bill has no friends among the teachers' unions, all of which would prefer the end of corporal punishment to its continuation on these terms. And if governors' powers on discipline policy are to be increased in the legislation outlined in *Better Schools*, it must be likely that the schools, themselves, will renounce the clumsy procedures now before Parliament. Let their Lordships give the Bill its quietus.

Pre-school—it works!

It is notoriously difficult to bring education research to bear on the making of educational policy. In their honest but tiresome way, the researchers, complicate, apparently simple questions. They demand "empirical" proof that common sense prescriptions

work. As a result, we know a lot more about what doesn't work than what does.

This week, however, there is news from Bristol (page 10) which seems to provide the best support yet for pre-school provision of all kinds. Professor Neville Butler and his colleagues have been following through a large cohort of children born in 1970.

The analysis of the results show conclusively that children who had three months or more experience in a playgroup, nursery school or class, or day nursery, performed better in school at five and at ten, than those who had not. The researchers promise that when this is published it will provide the firm evidence which the pre-school movement has so long awaited. (American research on Head Start has also now provided a solid case for the universal provision of kindergarten and this is figuring in many US educational reform proposals.)

It is not, of course, lack of research but lack of money which has held back the pre-school movement. As long ago as 1972, Mrs Thatcher mapped out an ambitious programme. But it is Sir Keith Joseph who now carries the banner for quality and standards. If it is now proved that an expansion of pre-school provision holds a reliable key to better educational performance, his own self-respect demands that he should do more about it than is promised in *Better Schools*.

...no comment

(The boy's parents) said (he) was suspended after a series of incidents at the school in which he squirted sodium hydroxide in a pupil's face, used a chisel on a girl's hand and melted plastic beakers on a stove.

The suspension angered (the parents), who claim it was excessive and unjust. They say they have spoken to people involved in the incidents and have been assured that (their son) was not acting with malice. Oxford Mail, May 22, 1985.



For... Margaret Norman and Mark Carlisle

Biddy Passmore on the egalitarianism debate at the Oxford Union

Well matched but unequal

Last week's Oxford Union debate on the motion "that egalitarian ideals have no place in education" gave rise to a strange line-up of guest speakers.

For the motion, Miss Margot Norman, the *Daily Telegraph's* glamorous education correspondent, and Mr Mark Carlisle, the former Education Secretary, made a fairly well-matched ideological pair. Both spoke up for meritocracy and inveighed against mixed ability classes, calling in aid the latest HMI spending survey. Equality of opportunity was in, dreary old uniformity out.

But things were more confused on the other side of the chamber. Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman (without a dinner jacket, you will be relieved to hear) was lined

up against the motion with Lady Warnock, mistress of Girton College, Cambridge and Mr John Pardoe, former Liberal MP and now director of Sight and Sound, the secretarial skills agency that further education colleges love to hate.

Mr Pardoe, always a forceful speaker, launched a thundering attack on the whole "bureaucratised, compulsory state education system" which turned out after 11 years the educational failures he encountered on the Youth Training Scheme. Did they need more schooling? Heaven help us, no. The only way to produce greater variety and more demanding consumers lay in vouchers. Egalitarianism à la Pardoe lay in "an explosion of the market".

Mr Radice looked deeply uncon-

fortable during this speech. But there was, worse, to come. Lady Warnock dismissed the notion that equality meant identity and argued that egalitarianism meant giving an equal chance to everyone, including the handicapped and women. But Mr Ian Morley, an undergraduate from Lady Margaret Hall discovered a skeleton in her cupboard. He discovered a remark from one of her books that egalitarians did want everyone to be exactly alike and that egalitarianism was not, therefore, to be taken seriously.

No matter that she had been quoted out of context: the damage was done. When Mr Radice came to sum up, he put a brave face on it. And indeed nearly convinced them. The vote was close, the motion being carried by 233 votes to 203.



Against... Giles Radice and John Pardoe

Unions pledge tougher tactics as pay talks fail

by Richard Garner

Strike action by teachers will be intensified when they return from the half-term break next Monday—with the prospect of disruption continuing throughout the summer term and resuming next autumn.

Leaders of the National Union of Teachers are likely to concentrate on schools in the constituencies of Conservative MPs with a narrow majority—and withdraw the strike exemption given to local education authorities that have pledged support for the teachers' case for a bigger pay increase.

The tactics of picking on "politically sensitive" areas for strike action agreed by the NUT's annual conference at Easter—has already earned the union the condemnation of a former Education Secretary, Mr Mark Carlisle, MP for Runcorn in Cheshire.

Mr Carlisle told the House of Commons that four schools in his constituency—three of them primary—had been called out on strike solely because they were represented in Parliament by a former Education Secretary.

He asked Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, to agree with him that the "one can have no possible respect for the leadership of a union which attempts to justify its behaviour on such a spurious ground".

However, Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Hillsborough and an NUT member himself, said teachers were the "most moderate group of people and are struggling for a living wage".

Meanwhile the National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers said this week it would call a halt to exempting local authorities from strike action.

Mr Nigel De Gruchy, its deputy general secretary, said a report of a meeting of the Association of County Councils' executive showed that four councils which had been granted "no-

strike" deals had opposed a move to press MPs to release more government cash to settle the dispute.

Mr De Gruchy said his union's action committee would be "very interested" in how representatives of the four Buckinghamshire, North Yorkshire, Kent and Essex—had voted when it met next week.

He said his union had recently reached agreement with three of them and that the fourth, Buckinghamshire, had been heralded as a breakthrough by the National Union of Teachers when it had become the first Conservative authority to support the teachers' case.

"It just shows these statements are not worth the paper they are printed on," he said. "We have no intention of doing any more exemptions."

The unions' warning of increased action came after seven hours of talks in the Burnham Committee, which negotiates teachers' pay, last Thursday had proved fruitless.

Despite a warning from Mr Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary and leader of the teachers' side in negotiations, that an offer of between 4 and 5 per cent or 5 and 6 per cent would be "out of court" at the previous meeting, the local authorities found they could not raise the offer beyond 5 per cent and a reference to arbitration.

The end result was that the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers joined with the NUT in threatening increased industrial action.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the NASUWT, said that—although "all disputes comes to an end some time"—he could not see any prospect of this dispute ending. His union is extending selective strike action to five new areas next week.

"The question of end-loading the settlement (whereby teachers received a phased deal giving them a higher

settlement by the end of the year) seemed a very helpful means of resolving the dispute," he added.

"However, the local authorities were formally advised that if such a deal was agreed, then no account of the higher end figure would be taken for the purposes of the rate support grant next year to authorities from the government."

Even the traditionally moderate Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association warned that it would be having an emergency meeting next Tuesday—when a ballot on strike action would be on the agenda.

In the end, it was the Government's insistence that no extra cash could be found for this year's pay settlement and the insistence by representatives of the Department of Education and Science that five per cent—which they had used their 15 votes on the management panel to vote against—should be the final offer which made the Association of County Councils (the dominant voice on the management side) refuse to increase the offer beyond that.

At least three times during the afternoon, the Labour-led Association of Metropolitan Authorities were close to walking out of the meeting because of their frustration at the lack of progress.

At the end of the day, Mr Philip Merridale, leader of the management side, expressed his "sadness" at the teachers' rejection of five per cent plus arbitration but said that—if the authorities had offered any more—they would have found themselves incapable of paying the teachers their wages.

The only glimmer of light lies with the annual meeting of the ACC on June 19—when the outcome of the county council elections could mean that the Conservatives lose their majority on the management side of negotiations.

'Take talks out of Burnham'

College lecturers' pay negotiations could be taken out of Burnham if their union and the local authorities can get the Government to agree. They want to transfer the negotiations to the National Joint Industrial Council which already handles conditions of service.

Such a move, which would mean that the DES would play no part in the negotiations, would require legislation to repeal or amend the Remuneration of Teachers Act.

The impatience of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities with the Burnham system was voiced at the weekend by Mr Steve Byers, a leading member of its education committee. He told a fringe meeting at the NAT-FHE conference in Plymouth that it was clear that a settlement on FE pay could only be achieved outside Burnham.

Dim prospects for contract deal

The chances of agreement of a new contract for teachers by the October deadline set by Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, appeared remote this week following the breakdown in talks over this year's pay claim.

Sir Keith won approval from the Cabinet for extra finance amounting to about 2.5 per cent extra on the teachers' salaries bill to increase teachers' pay next year if they could agree a new contract in time for the announcement of next year's rate support grant settlement.

His intervention—just two days before the crucial Burnham meeting to discuss this year's pay claim—was condemned by local education authority spokesmen and teachers' leaders alike as "unhelpful".

The local authorities were particularly peeved that he took many of the elements which were on offer in their conditions packages of last November and presented them as his own ideas. The teachers' union, for their part, were unanimous for one of the few times in this dispute in believing that extra pay had to be forthcoming to settle this year's claim before Sir Keith's vision of a new contract could be negotiated.

Any chance of serious negotiation on the contract remains remote at present.

The situation could change when Sir Keith's review of teacher representation which is expected to end the NUT's absolute majority.

But this is unlikely to take place before the end of the year—after the deadline Sir Keith has set.

Meanwhile, it became clear that—while the NUT and other unions recognize that Sir Keith's package offers some concessions—there are still controversial elements to it.

One NUT negotiator staged out a clause on the curriculum and examinations as the most controversial aspect.

It says that teachers should have a contractual commitment to the preparation and development of courses of study and teaching materials in response to the change in public examinations and assessment procedures—which he saw as a contractual commitment to writing pupil profiles.

Other union negotiators pointed out that the clause on covering for absent colleagues was less specific than the one originally tabled by the local authorities.

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Professor Bill Wallace (left) argues that the dismissal of the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers has ended a crucial dialogue between the Government and a wide range of bodies committed to the maintenance and improvement of primary and secondary education.

Paying the price of rebellion

In the beginning, everyone thought that the new Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers was a good idea. In September 1980, the then deputy head, Lady Young, welcomed us to Elizabeth House, telling us that she was looking forward to receiving our advice. But four years and seven months later, the present head has thanked us - and sent us all home. In his little farewell speech, Sir Keith Joseph did remind us how much good advice we had given and how much of it he had accepted. But although there was a chance for some of us to talk with him briefly over lunch, the committee was given no opportunity, formally and together, to tell him how much we regret being dismissed.

Why expel us? Perhaps this is too strong a word and stems from my own behaviour as the author of several one-man expressions of disagreement or dissent along the way. In any case, my first objection was partly mine. Lady Young read us a lesson on the need for a reduction in educational spending, and she rejected that. In their first advisory statement about numbers, in August 1981, the rest of the committee went along with this, but by May 1982 they too came round to the view that there was less slack in the system than

they and she had imagined and, more important, that for broad educational and social reasons it was one of its functions of ACSET to give advice on improving the supply and education of teachers, if necessary even by means of additional funds.

Since then, ACSET has in fact suggested several enhancements, most notably directed towards improving the quality of teacher training and extending in-service education. Indeed, as one official put it, the committee is now a victim of its own success. It has done so much so quickly that the DES needs a couple of years without it in order to elaborate and implement its recommendations.

Nevertheless, while ACSET has been very active over a wide range of topics, from specific teacher shortages to special training courses, there is a great deal that it has not yet got round to - considering nursery education and examining the lengthening of teacher training are only two examples. It has only recently begun to tackle the further education sector; and somewhere out there in the so-called real world, there was much for it to do still in the messy area of 16 to 18-year-old education.

What ACSET did after its first hesitant year it certainly accomplished with a great deal of skill and understanding on the part of all its members and of the civil servants involved. But

much less of its advice was accepted than was implied during its final rites. Its suggested target for primary training was reduced, a result that heralds a crisis at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s. The secondary training base will be inadequate for the expansion required of it in the 1990s. Indeed, the

ing progress and enquiring after resources. Put another way - and perhaps too dramatically - ACSET started off facilitating Lady Young's economy proposals, but rebelled. It began thinking seriously and effectively for itself and putting the case, however diplomatically, for additional public expenditure. So it was time to get rid of it.

And one of the saddest things about this is precisely how it lowers the quality of the education that Ministers allege they wish to raise. The attack on public expenditure becomes in the end an attack on the public servants. It is little wonder that, as ACSET was told at its last meeting, young recruits to teaching are not coming forward in the numbers they need to, and used to.

Of course, the committee was only advisory and could not expect Ministers, faced with all the pressures of governing the country, to accept its every wish. On the other hand, there has been more than a hint that it was at least subconsciously expected to provide palatable advice.

In 1983 its deliberations on initial training were largely pre-empted by the sudden publication in March of a White Paper on Teaching Quality; and

the Department's response to its subsequent advice was in many cases a subtle extension or amendment in strengthening the role of HMI instance. Interestingly enough, the new committee then established to accredit teacher education (CATE) was formally expected (or it was, some prodding) to continue to make advice and proposals from ACSET but it will no longer be subject to restraint.

This is an important point. All members of CATE are appointed by the Secretary of State; in contrast with ACSET, none of its representatives. When this fact was presented to, and I am sorry to say, supported by ACSET, I argued against it - again, I am sorry to say, my own. My main reasons were that such a procedure might produce advice that was more palatable, but a more judicious or even a more to improvements, and that it might lead to a loss of confidence among other parties in the educational sector, that is, the employers, the teachers and the teachers. I also argued that it might eventually be a threat to ACSET itself.

This time I sincerely hope I did get it entirely right. Certainly, ACSET has gone. This is a tragedy. It comes top of many other examples of ineffectual dirigisme in education, not least secondary examinations and school curricula. Specifically, the dismissal of ACSET has ended a crucial dialogue between the Government and a wide range of bodies expertly involved in and deeply committed to the maintenance and improvement of primary and secondary education in Britain. It has also undermined the practical cohesion and confidence of the teaching profession.

However, Sir Keith Joseph has promised to consider convening a successor committee in about two years' time. He ought to do so sooner. But when he does, I hope he will not be wrong in at least one respect: eschewing the technique employed in securing membership of CATE and bringing together instead a committee including some of his own appointees, and comprising of the other leading educationists. Over lunch he listened, however briefly, to this point of view and then, he will come up with the only reasonable answer. The future of a lot of young people and of the country, will depend upon it.

Professor Wallace is director of the Institute of Social and Educational Studies of the University of Glasgow and a former president of the Association of University Teachers.



Young recruits to teaching are not coming forward in the numbers they need to, and used to.

Richard Garner reports from the National Association of Head Teachers' conference in Scarborough

Heads' leader calls for new arbitration system



David Hart... pendulum idea

A pendulum system of arbitration for teachers' pay with the arbitrator ruling either in favour of the employers or the union was advocated yesterday by Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers.

In his address to his association's annual conference in Scarborough, he called for a type of "all or nothing" arbitration system up until now only favoured by the non-striking Professional Association of Teachers.

He also criticized Sir Keith Joseph for failing to support moves to alter the existing system of pay bargaining in the Burnham Committee.

"Sir Keith believes that because the Scottish machinery, which incorporates salaries and conditions of service, has failed to prevent strikes this year, we ought to be reluctant to move in that direction," he said.

"This is a totally bankrupt argument which not only ignores the comments of the chairman of Burnham (Sir John Wordie) who supports a merger, but also the fact that until you have a new machinery which is ready, available and in the right condition, you cannot get off first base."

He said that - whilst appreciating there was much to be gained from a "no-strike" deal "because of the appalling track record of Burnham in the last four years" - such a move should be contemplated with caution.

"There is no earthly reason why teachers should give up this right, as suggested by some commentators, without - at the very minimum - a binding independent review body," he added.

"Instead of a no-strike agreement, I would prefer to see any new negotiating body take a leaf out of industry and incorporate the concept of open access pendulum arbitration under the aegis of ACAS (the conciliation and arbitration service)."

Mr Hart said the arbitrator should be given the power to mediate thus encouraging both parties to negotiate "right up until the last minute" before making an arbitral ruling.

He said the new body should allow for headteachers' pay to be negotiated

Exams hit despite pledge

Industrial action by teachers is affecting this summer's examinations despite a pledge not to do so.

Mr Ray Biggs, chairman of the union's professional and legal committee, said: "They won't supervise examinations over their free periods, after the school day has ended - or at midday."

Leaders of the NAHT acknowledged variations from authority to authority - but warned of a serious escalation in the dispute when teachers return from the half-term break next week.

The NAHT leadership called on the conference to support an emergency motion warning local education au-

thorities of a further reduction in the present level of service if a settlement to the dispute did not come quickly.

The motion was passed unanimously. An amendment tabled by inner London heads declaring that schools would be closed during the lunch-break from the beginning of next term if the head considered supervision to be inadequate was heavily defeated.

Mr David Hart, its general secretary, said out that heads may be forced to:

- close schools at midday;
- exclude more pupils from classes;
- abandon whatever parents' or staff meetings they are managing to hold at the moment.

The emergency motion - which was endorsed by the conference - attacked the "insensitivity" of Sir Keith Joseph over teachers' pay and warned of a growing threat to the education, safety and welfare of pupils in schools.

Mr Hart added: "We shall be reminding our members that no member of the NAHT should be on their own supervising at midday and - if that situation exists - they ought to seriously consider closing down the school at midday."

According to a survey presented to the conference, 39 per cent of secondary school heads and 52 per cent of primary school heads were supervising on their own at lunch time during the dispute.

Stress takes its toll

An increasing number of headteachers are having heart attacks, ulcers or breakdowns because of the strain of the job, the conference was told.

Mrs Nora White, a headmistress from Doncaster, made this claim while seconding a motion voicing concern about the stress on headteachers because of diminishing education resources and industrial action.

She said that in her authority alone more than a third of the council's 167 headteachers had sought premature retirement since a scheme was introduced five years ago. The number applying had more than doubled this year compared with previous years.

Mrs Elizabeth Paver, also from Doncaster, proposing the motion, said: "For the first time in my nine years as head I am beginning to doubt whether I can carry on with my headship let alone enjoy it."

Mr John Pense, from Berkshire, spoke of some of the initiatives headteachers were now supposed to introduce in their schools - multicultural education; computers; a continuing review of the curriculum; insidious mathematics; staff and development and in-service training.

"Some of the saddest people in education are those who have no option but to stay," he added. "Many fear and expect breakdown point when they will be thrown on the scrapheap."

The motion, which also called for a national agreement to exclude head teachers from pupil-teacher ratios in all but the smallest primary schools, was overwhelmingly passed.

'Copy-cat' warning over strike action

Teachers are hypocrites if they take industrial action and then condemn their pupils for doing the same said Mr Derek Best, NAHT incoming president.

In his address he told the conference: "The price of strike action by teachers is increasing truancy and strike action by pupils. And it is hypocrisy for teachers involved in sanctions to condemn the action taken by some pupils on Thursday April 26 (when there were walkouts by pupils in protest against unemployment)."

He said the strikes meant that "instead of pupils being led towards a greater social awareness, greater commitment and involvement, greater concern for others less fortunate than themselves, they have set before them the example of actions which they will interpret as those of the 'I'm alright, Jack' philosophy, of self interest and materialism dominant over concern for others and over idealism."

He added: "The effect of such an example on the future generation"

should give us all cause for concern and leaves me convinced that strike action is a complete denial of our professionalism."

The pay dispute was a "battle for the minds of people, a battle in which strike action merely serves to alienate and to undermine our claim to be treated as professional people."

Mr Best advocated a "no-strike" deal for teachers - as reported in last week's TES - saying: "The danger of permanent damage to the education of pupils and to relationships with staff is constantly increasing and we do have to look very seriously at the idea that teachers should give up the right to strike in return for a professional salary and some machinery, such as a Pay Review Body, to prevent subsequent erosion."

"The only way to improve teachers' salaries," he said, was through restructuring deals on both pay and conditions of service.

However, restructuring alone would not solve the problem, he said.

'Four-term' plan endorsed

A radical shake-up of the school year with the introduction of a four-term year could cut down truancy and absenteeism according to a report drawn up by the Association's leaders.

The report, which was endorsed by the conference, says the present three-term system has several disadvantages - notably demands upon teaching staff during long term periods. "The need for fresh and vital teaching is probably now greater than ever," it says.

In addition, the examination system spreads over several weeks, with pupils waiting even longer for their results. "During this waiting period, the time spent in school is not always used to fullest advantage."

A third disadvantage, the report says, is the concentration of general public holidays in late July and August with the resulting traffic jams and lack of holiday accommodation.

The new system, would lead to "more effective pupil and teacher performance, combined with the reduction of stress and absenteeism." Maintenance work to school buildings could also be planned more effectively.

The report adds: "The problems caused by fewer summers would not arise, as the examination and revision periods would be earlier in the school year."

NEWS

Calculators to be encouraged in primaries

A new maths project is to encourage the use of calculators in primary schools. Funded by the Schools Curriculum Development Council, the £600,000 project aims to persuade teachers to develop the maths curriculum so that it takes account of the recent boom in calculators and computers. The SCDC estimates that more than half of all upper juniors own a calculator, and up to a quarter of the same age group have a computer at home.

The initiative is closely in line with the recent HMI document, *Mathematics from 5 to 16*, which says that calculators should be much more widely used in primary schools.



More than half of all upper juniors are thought to own a calculator.

But practice with calculators will go hand in hand with mental skills and understanding of number. And parents will be closely involved in the new strategy.

The project also plans to promote the teaching styles outlined in the Cockcroft Report and to develop the use of maths across the curriculum.

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Wide variations found in regional staying-on rates

by Biddy Passmore

Marked differences between regions in the proportion of young people staying on in full-time education, which seem to have little to do with local employment prospects, are shown in the latest volume of Government statistics.

Of the nine regions in England and Wales the South East of England and Wales had the highest proportions of 16-year-olds staying on at either school or college in 1983 - 48 per cent and 52 per cent respectively - although Wales had one of the highest levels of unemployment and the South East the lowest. And the 18 per cent unemployment rate in the North did not seem to drive 16-year-olds back to the classroom: only 41 per cent stayed on at school or college.

The totals conceal big differences between regions in the type of education 16-year-olds choose. While the South East had the second highest proportion of 16-year-olds staying on at school, it had the lowest proportion (16 per cent) opting for FE college.

A very high proportion of 16-year-olds in Northern Ireland stay on at school - 41 per cent in 1983, and nearly 50 per cent in Belfast. (Figures for further education in the province are not given.)

That high staying-on rate seems to produce good results. The proportion of leavers with at least one A level was higher in Northern Ireland at 22 per cent, than in any region in England and Wales. Northern Ireland also had the highest percentage - 11 per cent - of 19 to 19-year-olds starting university courses.

But Northern Ireland's school system, which remains wholly selective, produces less satisfactory results at the other end of the achievement scale. It had by far the highest proportion - 28.1 per cent - leaving school with no graded results of any region in the UK. (The lowest proportion was 7 per cent in the South West.)

This volume of statistics, the only Government publication to give figures for education throughout the United Kingdom, shows that the country's schools had 9.9 million pupils in

January 1983. The average for Great Britain was 92 per cent. Six per cent of all pupils in England and Wales attended non-maintained schools, but the figure ranged from only 2 per cent in Wales and 3 per cent in the North and Yorkshire and Humberside to 9 per cent in the South East and South West.

On average, there were 18 pupils for every teacher in the UK. As usual, average ratios were most skewed in Scotland, where class sizes are covered by national agreements with teachers.

In the South East, 10.5 per cent of school-leavers in 1982-83 had three or more A level passes, the highest regional figure. Scotland, which has no CSE, had a high proportion - one quarter - of leavers with no graded results. But after O grades, seem to attract far more young people than A levels. Over 30 per cent of Scottish school-leavers in 1982-83 obtained Higher, while only 14 per cent of English and Welsh leavers had A levels.

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Backing for Bradford race row head

NAHT leaders pledged their support for Mr Ray Honeyford, the Bradford primary head suspended from his job in a row over the council's multiracial education policy.

Mr Derek Best, NAHT president, said: "His right to have a view about these policies must be part of the right of all people in a democratic society."

Mr David Hart, general secretary, said it was a very, very crucial case, adding: "We shall be producing evidence to the effect that he is quite capable of going back into his school."

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'Indoctrination is widespread in British education'

Call to outlaw preaching of politics in schools

by Biddy Passmore

Political indoctrination in schools should be outlawed and teachers who break such laws be dismissed, a report published on Tuesday recommends.

Leaving it to parents to complain to the school - the preferred solution of Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary - is not good enough, it says.

The authors, Dr Roger Scruton of London's Birkbeck College, Mrs Angela Ellis-Jones of Women and Families for Defence, and Dr Dennis O'Keefe of the North London Polytechnic, say they are firmly convinced that indoctrination is widespread in British education and that there are "committed activists with the power and the determination to spread it further".

They claim that it not only underlies new subjects such as Peace Studies, Women's Studies and Black Studies but is also creeping into the traditional subjects such as English.

The report defines indoctrination as the domination of subjects and courses by foregone conclusions and unquestioning language, linked to a political attitude which advocates political action. The authors say it closes minds to arguments, evidence and alternatives and results in the vilification of opponents and opposing viewpoints.

One of the few examples they quote is an extract from a recent report for the Education Authority, which said that tenets such as "injustice and inequality are wrong" and "everyone is worthy of respect" should be repre-

sented in a curriculum for peace education. The authors remark: "While we all accept that injustice is wrong, the identification of injustice with 'inequality' is precisely what is questioned by the opponents of socialism. It is nonsense to suggest that everyone is worthy of respect: many (Hitler, for example, or Stalin) are worthy only of contempt."

They say complaints from parents are unlikely to get far. "If a teacher who has engaged in indoctrination is strongly supported by his head, it is extremely difficult for a parent or even a group of parents to have the matter corrected, especially if the head is implementing I.C.A. guidelines", the report argues. "Nor are Her Majesty's Inspectors likely to provide an adequate corrective, since any moderately competent indoctrinator would know how to elude their grasp."

The 1944 Education Act should be amended, it concludes, placing a clear



Roger Scruton

duty on the local education authority "to provide an education that does not seek to indoctrinate" and giving parents and ratepayers the right to enforce the duty by a court order. Teachers' contracts should prohibit indoctrination and breach of this term should make them liable to dismissal. The report also says indoctrination is widespread in further and higher education. It gives as examples an exam paper for the London University MA in Education, which asks "How does schooling reproduce racial inequality?" and papers for social workers at the Polytechnic of North London and for economics students at Birkbeck College.

But, although they claim that intellectual bias is easier to achieve and potentially extremely damaging at this level, the authors say that outlawing it would offer a threat to academic freedom. They therefore propose the establishment of a body of academics with the power to recommend the withdrawal of state funding from institutions which engage in blatant indoctrination.

Education and Indoctrination, by Roger Scruton, Angela Ellis-Jones and Dennis O'Keefe, is available from The Sherwood Press, 88 Tynney Road, London E7 0LX, price £3.95 plus 50p p&p.

Lady Warnock reviews "Education and Indoctrination" in next week's TES.



Times capsule: City of London School pupil Simon Funnell last week played copy of *The Times*, a set of mini coins and two schoolboys' essays in the foundation stone of his school's new building. The independent day school, which traces its antecedents back to 1442, is to move 400 yards down from its present site on the Victoria Embankment.

Mail on Sunday combatants exchange more verbal blows

by Hilary Wilce

The row over *The Mail on Sunday's* critical article on an Oxfordshire comprehensive continued this week with yet more accusations and counter accusations.

The article outlined the views of Dr John Rae, head of Westminster School, following a day's visit to the Oxford County Boys' School, and appeared under Dr Rae's name. Its criticisms, particularly concerning teaching which was said to be uninspired, angered staff and parents, who have now lodged a complaint with the Press Council. The piece also angered Dr Rae, who denied he had written it (*TES*, May 17).

Last week the school's head, Mr Richard Proctor, told *The TES* that after the article appeared, *The Mail on Sunday* approached him with the suggestion that he should write about Westminster School, and asked for his help in persuading reluctant Dr Rae. Mr Proctor said he had written to a paper saying he had no intention of cooperating with the proposal.

This week the paper's editor, Mr Stewart Steven, wrote to *The TES* saying he had been "fascinated" to hear this, since he had received a letter from Mr Tim Brighouse, Oxfordshire's chief education officer, soon after *The Mail on Sunday's* original report, which said:

"I should be grateful if your reporter, Sue Reid, and yourself would allow Richard Proctor, the headmaster of the school, or myself the chance to spend a day either at Westminster School or some other independent school. We could then present a view from the other side as it were. We both write quite well and am sure could present good and lively copy."

Mr Steven commented: "One is entitled to assume from this letter that Mr Brighouse had been in touch with Mr Proctor. I also believe that readers of *The TES* will begin to understand from this letter the difficulties one assumes, most newspapers have, in dealing with the educational establishment."

Mr Brighouse said that the day after the article appeared he and Mr Proctor wished to offer to put the independent schools under the microscope, but when it became clear how the paper had treated Dr Rae's comments "Mr Proctor, not unnaturally, decided he had no intention of being subjected to this kind of treatment."

Mr Proctor pointed out that the letter from *The Mail on Sunday* arrived addressed to "Mr Brian Tyler (the head of Kingswood School, in Northamptonshire, which featured in a famous television series), Headmaster, Oxford Comprehensive School".

"The address of the letter makes it clear that in the eyes of *The Mail on Sunday* all comprehensives appear to be in the same place with the same headmaster," he said.

Mr Steven said his paper had been talking to Mr Tyler about the possibility of arranging for him to visit a public school in order to write a follow-up article.

Mr Tyler agreed this was under discussion, and that a letter intended for him had probably arrived on Mr Proctor's desk by mistake. "If I were to write such a piece I would expect to write it myself and not to have it amended in any way by *The Mail on Sunday*. I naturally accept the word of the features editor this would be so."

Poly entry shows drop of 1%

Contrary to the Government's hopes, the number of new entrants to polytechnic degree courses in science, maths, engineering and technology last year was down by just over 1 per cent, to 13,632.

The numbers starting courses in engineering and ancillary health dropped while the numbers embarking on maths and science courses rose.

Full-time and sandwich students in these subjects increased by 5.5 per cent last autumn. At just over 60,000, it is now nearly a quarter above the level three years ago and represents nearly 40 per cent of the total. This rise is because of the high intakes and a boost at sub-degree level.

The number of new entrants to full-time degree courses was virtually unchanged, at 37,500 - the result of funding constraints and strict targets on student numbers set by the National Advisory Body. Entry to courses leading to the Higher National Diploma grew by about 5.5 per cent, to nearly 11,500. There was a marked contraction in the number of students on sandwich courses.

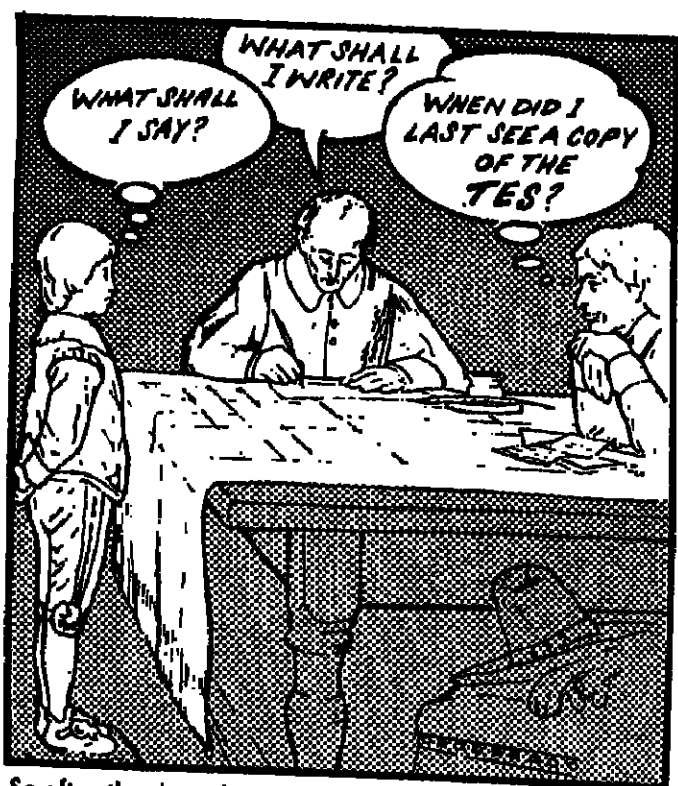
There are 153,000 students on full-time and sandwich courses at the 30 polytechnics in England and Wales in the current academic year. A further 62,000 students are studying on a part-time basis.

Crime rates

Juvenile crime has decreased by 10 per cent since 1974, according to a report by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. The number of young adult offenders aged 17 to 21, however, rose by 40 per cent between 1974 and 1983 and the 21-plus group by 36 per cent.

Wrong address

Gillian Klein, editor of *Multicultural Teaching*, is based at the Inner London Education Authority's Centre for Learning Resources, and not at the Centre for Multicultural Education, University of London Institute for Education, as stated in last week's Talkback.



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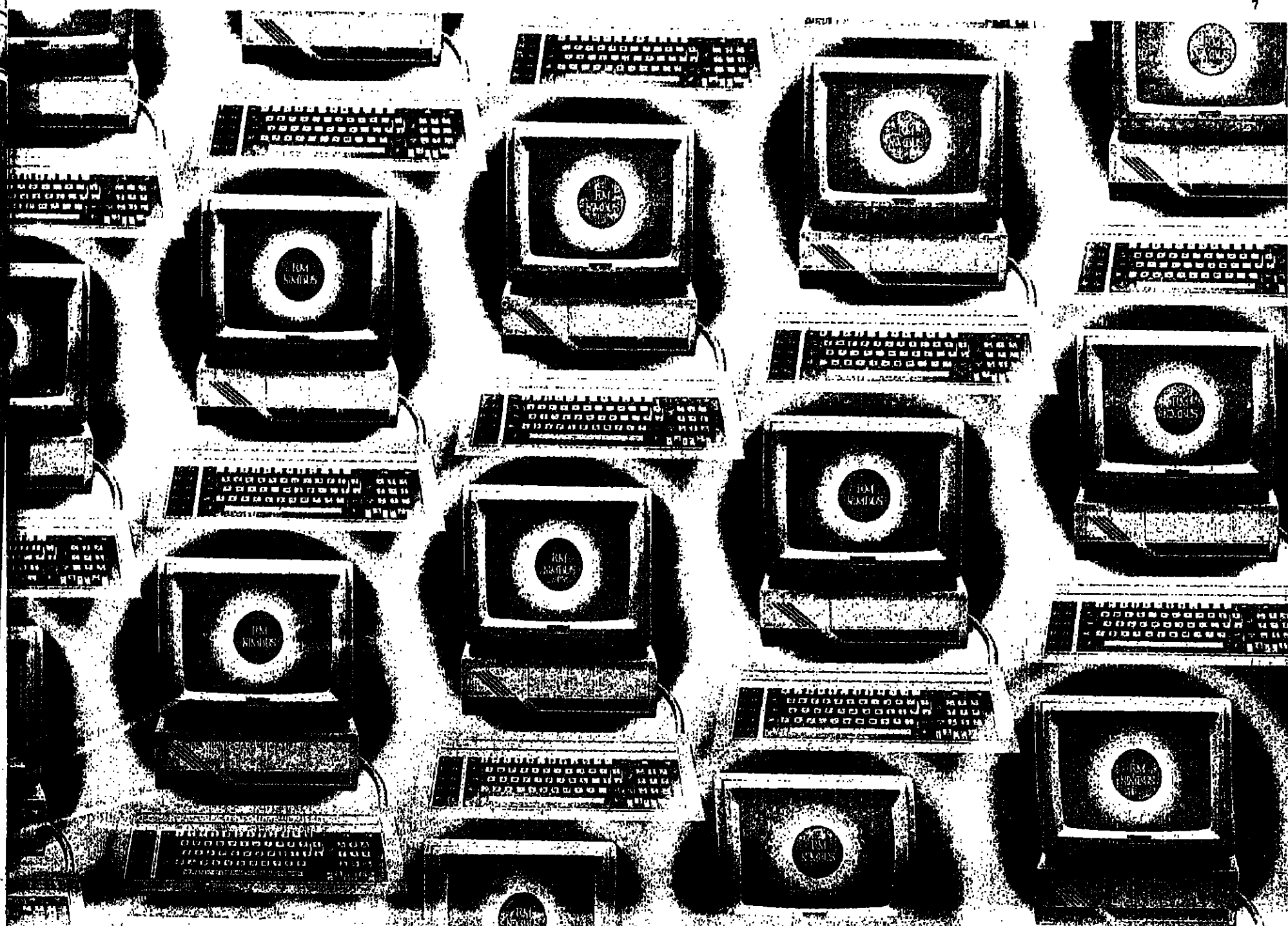
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RESEARCH MACHINES
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Mark Jackson and Diane Spencer report from the annual NATFHE conference in Plymouth

Uncorking the spirit of '39...

The colleges' lecturers met at Plymouth at the weekend in a 1939 mood. They reluctantly face, they believe, a long hard war against the Government and they are not sure they can win.

The battles will be on two fronts. A series of offensives on pay and a stubborn defence against cuts and redundancies.

The fulminance of the threat to their living standards and their jobs, rather than the close-up view of Plymouth Hoe, seemed to have worked a sea change in the delegates. They looked and sounded 10 years older than last year's conference.

For most of the time they kept the posturing and

shadow boxing to a decent minimum, taking care not to drive off potential allies like the local authorities. All but a few of the delegates were willing to play down doctrinal differences in what they see as the fight for the common survival.

The subject that generated most sound and fury was the Youth Training Scheme, and the majority of the delegates was persuaded to vote for a resolution which condemned it. But they did so in the knowledge that it committed the union and its members to no action of any kind, let alone outright withdrawal from the scheme. Indeed, the delegates went on to resolve to make more strenuous efforts to organize and fight on

behalf of YTS supervisors.

The one issue on which the conference was deeply divided was on whether NATFHE should comply with the Government's anti-union legislation. That meant an unavoidable choice which vitally affect the future of the union.

In the end, an uncomfortable majority decided that it would be unwise for a small, *petit bourgeois* union to try to lead its members into a head-on clash with the Cabinet and the courts. NATFHE's leaders left Plymouth knowing that they can concentrate on being generals rather than kamikaze pilots in the battles to come.

Prosecution raises fears for teacher reps

Union leaders' fears that teachers' representatives on education committees are now increasingly likely to be drawn into political conflict have been raised by a prosecution which has brought against a member of Solihull committee.

The member, a lecturer at the College of Technology who is an FE teacher on the committee, was charged under the 1972 Local Government Act alleging that he took part in a matter in which he had pecuniary interest.

The conference was warned that it could imply a threat to teachers' representatives on other education committees.

Mr Cliff Hall, of the West Midlands region, said that the day before the committee discussed a claim the college's NATFHE branch was making for a large number of lecturers on term contracts and the high pay of low graded posts. Mr Kevill, the teacher rep, was warned the assistant director of education had a pecuniary interest in the matter. But NATFHE's legal department advised Mr Whiston that every right to take part in the decision.

The claim was rejected by the committee and subsequently the staff took industrial action. The director of Public Prosecutions was seen by the police in January due to appear in court next week.

Mr Peter Dawson, the union general secretary, told the TES that teacher representatives were "not an ambiguous position by the way". They were nominated to put the views of a particular interest group, but past some local authorities had advised them to get the department the Environment to issue decisions indemnifying them against politics.

Mr Fred Jarvis, the NUT general secretary, an observer at the conference, said that the new crop of local councils is likely to highlight the importance of teacher representatives who might now hold the balance on some committees.



Peter Dawson: accused the Government of turning a deaf ear to appeals for negotiations

to the teachers' unions last week offering terms for a pay settlement as the modern equivalent of Moses bringing down the tablets from Mount Sinai. That did not represent collective bargaining or a working relationship between employers and unions.

Mr Dawson called the past year one of lost opportunities for the Government. On pay, it had "shortsightedly and cynically" offered 4 per cent when

employers were willing to accept, as a target, the principle that lecturers' pay should be comparable with the trades and professions from which the membership is drawn.

He accused the Government of turning a deaf ear to appeals for negotiations after the publication of the *Training for Jobs* White Paper. Instead it went into "months of trench warfare with the local authorities".

Union law will not be defied

NATFHE is to change its rules so as to comply with the 1984 Trade Union Act. After along and bitter debate, the conference rejected calls for the unions to defy the Government and face action in the courts.

The union's leaders pointed out that, apart from the financial penalties which non-compliance would entail, it would mean that in the end the courts would dictate new rules.

A succession of speakers supported an outer London resolution calling for non-cooperation with the legislation in line with the TUC's Wembley conference decisions, and said that to surrender without a fight was a betrayal of trade union freedom.

Some warned that to comply with the Act would be to invite a future Labour Government to retain the legislation. "Lying down before the Government's steam roller" one delegate called it, but others argued that the experience of unions who had already tried to defy the legislation was that the only practical course was to fight for its repeal.

To amend the union's rules in time to comply with the law will mean calling a special rules conference. That is a constitutional decision which required a two-thirds majority - rather more than those who had voted for compliance with the law. But enough of the opposition agreed to bow to the political decision already taken to give the executive the margin it needed to obtain the power to call the special conference.

IN BRIEF

Cash injection

A call for "massive injection of funds" to meet Government demands on the education service was made by Mr Bill Head in his presidential address to the conference.

He agreed that teachers should be paid up to date. But this would mean staff and improved salaries in conditions. "And if the Government are not prepared to find the money, they must cease their political effusions," he said. "The way is put up or shut up."

Green Paper

The Green Paper on higher education was condemned as a "disorganised gathering of platitudes, wishful thinking, innuendo and downright chicanery."

Mr Frank Griffiths, newly appointed education secretary, rejected the Government's objection with "crude calculations of value for money to justify the second-class teaching and status of public sector higher education."

Cap does not fit

The rate-cap does not fit and we will not wear it, declared Mr Geoff Beley-Kendall from Sheffield. He logged the effect of a 5 per cent cap on the education centres closing with the loss of 23 jobs, 40 jobs in FE would go and there would be a cut back in awards for 300 students.

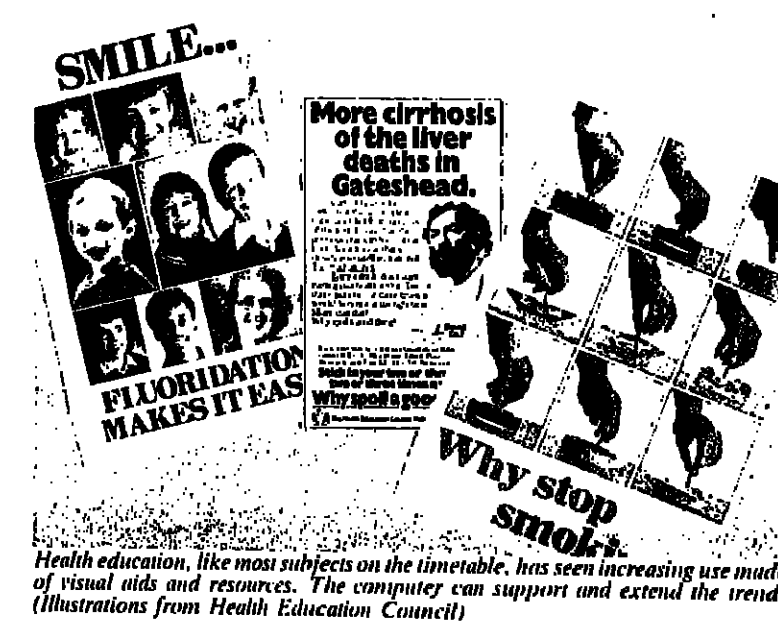
Health education: a suitable case for new-tech treatment?

Mike Morgan

Investigation is in the field of value clarification and decision-making.

A second article gives a report of a micro-computer based CAL project at the University of Minnesota Health Centre. The software packages used in this project were aimed at enhancing value clarification in areas such as eating or smoking behaviour. The target group were students awaiting their appointments at the Health Centre, but the programmes were so user-friendly that people often came into the building simply to play the health awareness games.

Turning to Britain, there has been no major input of CAL into health education to date. While many small projects are being developed, not only are they usually written for one type of micro-computer and hence incompatible with most other machines - but they also tend to be poorly programmed by computer enthusiasts with only a little knowledge of writing good computer programs. Such software is often written in rather amateur



Health education, like most subjects on the timetable, has seen increasing use made of visual aids and resources. The computer can support and extend the trend. (Illustrations from Health Education Council)

BASIC, with poor layout and graphics, and littered with programming errors. There is of course a danger that a computer specialist working alone could design an imaginative programme that was very good on colour graphics, etc., but poor on health education content!

The SOFTPHASE project for the Health Education Council at Chelsea College aims to make a listing of all proven CAL health education software packages currently available in the UK. For example, Dietmaster, a dietary analysis program for the Spectrum, is now being marketed, and an alcohol education quiz is about to be piloted at health events by the Department of Community Medicine at Kings College, London, using a Sinclair QL.

Other projects appropriate to health education in the UK include adapting the (American) Body Awareness Resource Network (BARN) program at LSE.

Its authors have described their BARN program as: 'a computer-based

system designed as a confidential, non-judgemental source of health information for adolescents. Its intention is to provide this age group with the support and encouragement necessary to maintain positive lifestyles, as well as to provide options and directions for choosing healthier lifestyles.

Known as *Burny* to its friends, the topics offered as programs include alcohol and smoking education, family communication skills, human sexuality and stress management. The program is in use in health centres, schools and youth clubs in and about the university town of Wincoson.

BARN is a new concept in the field of health education, offering games, information gathering, and prompting skills in real-life situations, for example coping with the pressures of giving up smoking. The programs can be used on a one-to-one basis, or utilised by a group of students (and parents?), who interact with each other as well as with the (Apple II) computer on a common problem. Should further advice and

help be needed, most of the BARN programs end with the name and address of a local counsellor with experience in the area of concern.

The BARN concept represents the beginnings of a major health education strategy using new technology. It may well prove an interesting and imaginative type of program to use in the UK, though requiring a good deal of initial modification for use in a British cultural setting. There would also need to be considerably more agreement amongst local education authorities as to which make of computer BARN-type programs should be written to wards, as software is not easily interchangeable between machines.

In any case, these programs lack the sophistication of interactive computer games now commercially available and which are highly popular in the home-market sector. If 'education for health' is to succeed in the 1980s, then this is a market which the health educators should be aiming for, as well as looking at the potential of CAL in schools and other settings.

Inevitably, in looking to the future this article must end with a number of questions. How are we to get the best CAL health-education software into schools and homes in this country? How do we ensure good user-friendly program content, free from racial and sexual stereotyping, and non-threatening to the person using the program for the first time? Should there be a 'seal of approval', in fact? And finally, how can CAL and new technology in general be used most effectively in educating for healthy living?

As 'knowledge based systems' develop over the next few years, it is surely vital that computer specialists, health educators and teachers begin to work together on these problems now, so as to ensure a place for good health education programmes in new technology applications in the future.

(Mike Morgan is a health education officer for Redbridge and Waltham Forest AHA. The views expressed in this article reflect the author's own, and are not the official policy of the Health Authority.)

Education for employment

Peter Avis describes a project benefitting the whole community

The Manpower Services Commission provide support for projects which benefit the community and employ people who have been out of work for more than six months. As an MEP centre we felt that there could be a useful joint venture between ourselves and the Community Programme Agency in Doncaster since there was a considerable need for technical and programming support arising from the educational use of computers.

We have had the scheme going for a year and it now involves twelve people: a manager; six junior programmers; a senior technician; two junior technicians; and two clerks; all working at the MEP centre. They provide a service to schools, to the youth service, and to individuals, working with them to produce programs, devices, and training. Perhaps a couple of examples might help explain the situation.

A Barnsley school for children with moderate learning difficulties, Whinmoor School, involves its children in STEP (Schools Traffic Education Programme) and obviously uses practical experience for most of its training. However there are occasions where practical work isn't possible. The two

teachers involved, Norman Pickett and Dennis Savage, designed a computer program to simulate the correct way of riding a motorbike.

Just like an arcade game the program allows the pupil to drive the bike realistically through a number of different situations. A programmer, Steve Owen, was funded by the Community Project to work with them and produced a program, part of which is shown below. In doing so, he has developed his skills to such an extent that his programming and technical expertise has enabled him to find work past the end of his year with the Community Project.

Another involvement has been the use of junior programmers to work in the youth service to help youngsters and the young unemployed learn to use computers more effectively. The programmers learn a variety of skills at the MEP centre and have access to its resources which they can then use in various ways.

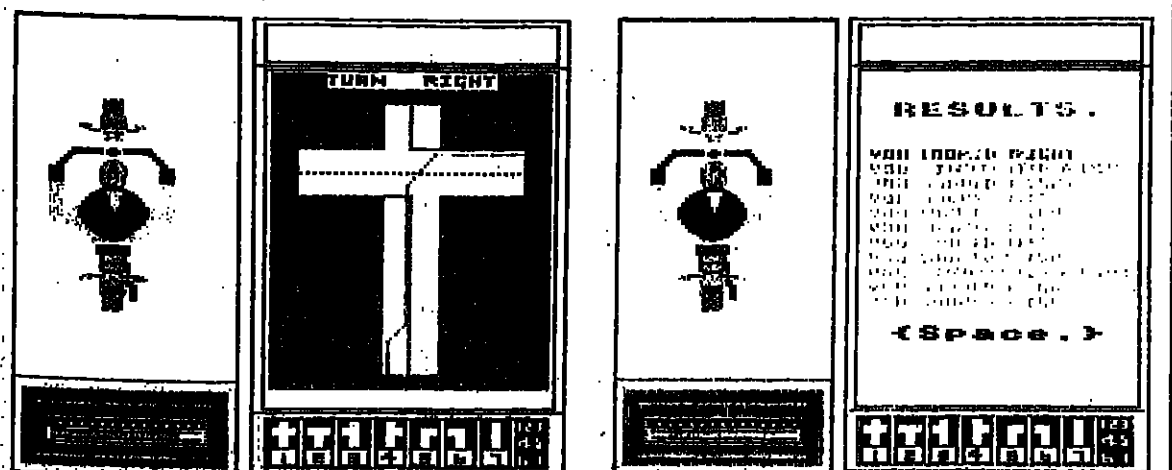
They can help the leaders of the youth centres with their administration, word processing, databases, etc. They can help the young unemployed learn about computers and how to use

a variety of programs. They can help them learn to program, etc. The technicians available through the project are able to provide switches for the handicapped and technical support for many developments.

There are considerable gains to be made from this kind of link between the Community Programme and MEP Centres. The unemployed taken on by the Community Project have a year working with new technology in a practical context, which hopefully provides them with employable experience. In fact three of the four who would have had to leave us after a year have been supported by industrial contracts.

The community also gains a useful service to its special needs schools and to its youth service. The MEP centre is able to pass on much of the experience gained through its activities in a practical and useful way.

Two frames illustrating the style of the motorcycle riding program developed for Whinmoor School's STEP program but available from Doncaster MEP RIC.



Leadership embarrassed by opposition to YTS

Delegates voted, to the embarrassment of the executive and officials, to oppose the Youth Training Scheme and demand education and training for all 16 to 19-year-olds.

Mr Brian Jones, South East region, said YTS was a "means of cheap labour and a conscripted service that every young person would be forced into".

"This scheme is a graveyard for young working-class people. It permeates the curriculum in our schools, NATFHE should be a campaigning union to bring hope and vision for our youngsters."

But the Further Education Standing Committee attempted to soften the resolution. Mr Vince Hall accused the "prosperous South East region of kicking members in the teeth who are working to improve the scheme". Mr Tony Warren, for the executive, attacked them for indulging in empty rhetoric.

Mr Dave Pugh, North West, called

for total opposition to the Manpower Services Commission and anything that came out of it. The Government was changing the fundamental nature of education through the back door.

Mr Tom May, East Anglia, asked if teachers were branded as traitors when they opposed the 11 plus? It was possible, they argued, to work with the system and still oppose "this diabolical scheme" politically.

NATFHE must come out into the open and oppose YTS instead of passing worthy motions year after year which "chipped away at the edges", Mr Geoff Carter, Outer London, urged delegates.

The heavier guns of the leadership came into action when Mr Peter Dawson, the general secretary, pointed out that the union was working closely with the MSC and the TUC on various committees to improve the scheme. "How the hell can we keep that position when we pass a motion that says 'oppose'?"

Supervisors 'poorly paid'

NATFHE must fight for staff employed by the Manpower Services Commission to instruct or supervise YTS trainees, the conference was told.

The union now has some 300 YTS supervisors organized in eight of their own branches, but Ms Jenny Wilson, a 35-year-old teacher who instructs YTS trainees in a work preparation unit at a Nottingham college told the conference that the union had shown no interest in negotiation on their behalf. That had been left to NALGO.

Ms Wilson claimed that the MSC itself had recognized that supervisors were inadequately paid and had recommended a 12 per cent increase which had been vetoed by the Treasury.

Despite opposition from some delegates who argued that the union should not settle for anything less than bringing all its members onto the Burnham scales, the conference decided overwhelmingly that NATFHE must become involved in negotiating a national agreement for the supervisors.



YTS: seen as a means of cheap labour

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Public now see value of nursery schooling

by Sarah Bayliss

Supporters of the pre-school movement have achieved a major shift in public opinion over the past two decades, said Mrs Vicky Hurst, chairman of the National Campaign for Nursery Education, at a conference to celebrate the campaign's twentieth birthday.

Mrs Hurst, addressing the campaign's annual general meeting in Truro, Cornwall, said its founders had often felt they were advocating something "terribly experimental" when they began lobbying in 1965 for nursery education for all.

But today the significance of the early years had been accepted and under-fives were now "vote getters" in the best and worst sense. "Every single political party claims an enthusiasm for the under-fives. That was not the case 20 years ago."

Parents who want pre-school education for their children should exploit politicians' apparent interest; locally they should get councils to put dates on their plans and to allocate funds from their budgets. At central government level the campaign would continue to

lobby Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, for a new law making nursery education a legal requirement with separate, centralized funding. Last year NCNE had unsuccessfully for an education support grant for nursery education.

Mr David Penhaligon, Liberal MP for Truro, said the status of nursery education in Cornwall had been elevated by a "glorious campaign" in 1979 which saved the service from wholesale closure.

He welcomed the use of vacant classrooms in primary schools for under-fives and said provision should not be squeezed out when the number of primary-aged children started to rise again.

Mr David Fryer, first deputy secretary for education in Cornwall, said the importance of nursery education had been "upgraded" in the county and that there were no proposals to cut it. The number of nursery classes attached to primary schools had risen to 28, with three opening in the past year under the urban programme. He explained that it was extremely

doubtful that the number of nursery schools would go up from the existing two but nursery classes could be increased.

Mr Fryer said the county had one of the biggest proportions of four-year-olds in primary classes and one of the immediate priorities was to look at the quality of education they were getting. The needs of under-fives in isolated, rural areas was another concern.

He believed that clustering arrangements between primary schools could be used to develop nursery education; for instance a teacher specializing in the early years could be appointed to a cluster, or a playbus could operate among them.

He also pointed out that recent election wins by the Liberal party might lead to new policies.

Mr Willem van der Eyken, senior research fellow at Bristol University's Department of Health, revealed a marked and lasting relationship between pre-school education and educational attainment at the age of ten (page 1). He reassured parents that playgroups appeared to be just as

effective, if not more so, in having a good influence and urged them to organize themselves into self-help groups where possible.

Earlier in a conference address Dr Hugh Jolly, honorary consultant paediatrician at the Charing Cross Hospital in London, told the conference that child development and the importance of play should be emphasized much more in all teacher training courses.

He hoped that teachers and parents were not persuaded that children's accidents were "accidental". Disturbed and unhappy children were much more likely to have accidents than others. "If you're in a state when you're driving your car you're much more likely to have a crash - it's the same with children."

Dr Jolly said children had a large capacity for understanding things and he had witnessed many times the tangle which adults got into when they failed to give honest factual answers to children's questions.

Children needed to attend funerals and he suggested that parents should

consider allowing them to see the body to say goodbye. "It can be natural so long as the parents are unembarrassed."

He would not consider nursery acute paediatric ward without a specialist in play, as well as a teacher. He had seen children who were desperately ill develop a life through play. The best kept fish in children's words - "ac just fish which are very cold thing and allowed sick children to play sand and water and other messy materials while they were confined."

Dr Jolly said he wanted to see links between the medical and teaching professions. Teachers in "captive audience" when it came to early diagnosis of problems - mild spasticity - and in time, accident prevention and immunization against disease. It was a disaster only 50 per cent of children in the had been immunized against measles compared with 95 per cent in America. Teachers could also encourage girls and their mothers to be immunized against rubella.

MATHS DAYS ARE NUMBERED



Sir Keith . . . sums
get the boot

OLD-STYLE arithmetic should be kicked out of Britain's schools, education chiefs said yesterday.

Long division, logarithms and complicated sums have been made obsolete by the electronic revolution.

A report by Sir Keith Joseph's Education Department says calculators and microcomputers are here to stay.

It adds: "Some standard written methods of calculation, which few pupils understand, should no longer be generally taught."

However, schoolchildren will still need a "fundamental grounding" in maths.

The National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers welcomed the report, saying traditional maths "wasted time."

The Sun, Thursday, April 25, 1985

Demo threat over asbestos repairs

by Adriana Caudrey

Four hundred primary pupils have been home from school for nearly five weeks because dangerous asbestos was discovered first at their school in north London and then at their temporary classrooms.

Parents and teachers at Highbury Quadrant Primary School, in Highbury, insisted that the school be closed after exposed asbestos cement was found behind some of the radiators.

They have refused to allow the children to go back until all asbestos has been removed from the building.

Their stand has forced the ILEA to deal with the problem before it would otherwise have got round to it, as part of its £50,000,000 rolling programme for asbestos removal at schools throughout the authority.

ILEA's Islington division found the children alternative accommodation at a former learning resources centre,

also in Highbury. But that building was found to be riddled with asbestos. It has taken longer to remove than first expected, and parents have been repeatedly warned of delays.

Now ILEA has promised that the centre will be ready next Monday. If it isn't, angry parents have vowed to march to the building and deposit their children there anyway.

David Pike, vice chairman of the school's governors, said: "Parents are fed up with the whole business. If the chaos goes on beyond Monday, we'll plunk our kids on the education authority."

Families, especially single mothers, have faced serious problems through having their children at home for so long. Some are in danger of losing their jobs because they are not allowed to bring their children to work, and have nowhere to leave them during the day.

Last week, in an effort to relieve the

problems, the divisional office started a play centre for up to 150 of the Highbury Quadrant pupils, but stressed it was only for those in the most dire need.

Local self-help groups have also started in some streets, with parents taking it in turns to look after the children.

The crisis began at the end of April when white and brown asbestos was found behind radiators in two classrooms. Contractors came and sealed it. Then two separate tests were carried out, one by an independent expert. He confirmed that there was not a dangerous level of asbestos fibres in the atmosphere. The fibres, if inhaled, can cause lung diseases.

But the incident had fuelled parents' and teachers' worries which were already aroused by earlier findings of asbestos in light fittings, door panels, and also in outside huts. They held a

meeting where they decided to call for the school to remain closed until all asbestos had been removed. That will take until September.

A spokesman at ILEA's divisional office said: "The authority acceded to the parents' request that all the asbestos should be removed immediately. We don't blame them - after all it's their children's lives. But there are immense practical problems in finding alternative provision."

She added that it was almost impossible to find a building which did not have some asbestos in it.

Irene Pick, who teaches at the school, and is a single mother with two children there, said: "I didn't know a great deal about asbestos, but the incident has really brought it home to me. I hadn't known there was asbestos behind the heating - the children got there a lot because it's the rabbit's hiding place."



Highbury pupils at the Newington Green Play Centre

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NEWS

Sign language pilot project for curriculum

by Susannah Kirkman

Sign language is to be introduced into the curriculum of mainstream schools in Leeds.

Lessons in signing for hearing pupils will begin in at least two Leeds high schools this September. But the eventual aim is to make instruction available for all Leeds pupils.

"Sign language is for communication between deaf and hearing people, so it makes sense if those who can hear learn it too," explained Mr Geoff Driver, the chairman of the Leeds education committee.

He said sign language would be part of the education authority's partnership scheme, which aims to "open up new areas of social and personal development" for pupils.

The Leeds decision has been hailed as a "wonderful opportunity" by the British Deaf Association. "Normally all the effort in an integrated situation has to come from deaf children. This will give them more chances of real communication with their peers," said Ms Suzanne Turfus, the association's education officer.

Ms Turfus believes that with signing being taught in all schools it will take away the stigma of using sign language. For many years some teachers and

parents of deaf children have resisted the teaching of signing as they feel this would impair pupils' ability to learn to speak.

But Leeds parents and members of the deaf community have besieged the education committee with requests for sign language to be taught alongside the oral approach. Mr Driver said: "We have been profoundly moved by the real frustration of deaf people at a system which hadn't allowed them to communicate with each other."

The education committee believes that signing will liberate profoundly deaf children because it will help them to communicate with people outside their schools. The "total communication approach", which includes oral and signing methods, will now be used in all schools and units for pupils with hearing problems.

But some remain unconvinced that "total communication" is the answer. Parents of profoundly deaf children at the Ewing School in Nottingham have fought its introduction.

Letters of protest from parents to Mr John Fox, Nottingham's director of education, about the proposal contained such comments as: "God gave us a voice so that we could be heard."

"They will want to integrate, not have to stay in the deaf circle who can sign". Nottinghamshire now takes the line that children who can benefit from signing should be taught it, but that pupils with some hearing ability and who have no other handicaps should be encouraged to use speech.

According to Mr Brian Armstrong, the president-elect of the British Association of the Teachers of the Deaf, a choice of methods should be available. But parental support was needed for whatever system was adopted.

A visual telephone for the deaf is being developed at Essex University's electronic systems' engineering department. It transmits sign language over telephone lines, using small, cartoon-like pictures.

An experimental, two-way communication system has already been built and tested by deaf people. The ways of developing prototypes which could be tested in clubs for the deaf or their homes.

Present alternatives to the telephone, such as connecting a typewriter to the telephone lines, are slow and difficult to use for conversation.

Caning Bill reaches key stage in Lords

by Biddy Passmore

The last real hope of turning the Government's corporal punishment Bill into an abolitionist measure comes next Tuesday, when it reaches its one-day Committee Stage in the House of Lords.

Labour and Alliance peers are hoping to repeat recent successes on the Local Government Bill and to secure the support of rebel Tories for a series of amendments to the unpopular Bill. As currently drafted, it will allow parents to exempt their children from corporal punishment and give legal immunity to teachers who inflict it on a child who is not exempt.

The main amendment, which will be moved by Lady David, Labour's education spokeswoman, would remove the exemption with a one or two-year timetable for abolition.

Other major amendments would change the exemption scheme from one in which parents have to opt their children out to one where they would have to opt them in to corporal punishment, and would extend the scheme to all children in independent schools.

Lady David said this week she was "moderately hopeful" of success. But

even if the votes went against her the Second Reading debate had shown that the opponents of the Bill had won the argument, she added.

Meanwhile, the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg is to be asked to consider the case of a six-year-old Somerset schoolgirl, Loretta Biscoe, who was slapped by a teacher for helping another child with her work. Loretta's mother, who says the same teacher also slapped her eight-year-old daughter for faltering in reading, says Loretta was put across the teacher's knee and smacked "so many times she lost count". But the teacher, and the L.E.A., say she was only slapped lightly.

STOPP, the pressure group opposed to physical punishment, has agreed to back the case. It is the only one lodged with the European Commission on Human Rights - the Court's lower tier - that involves slapping rather than punishment with an implement such as the cane.

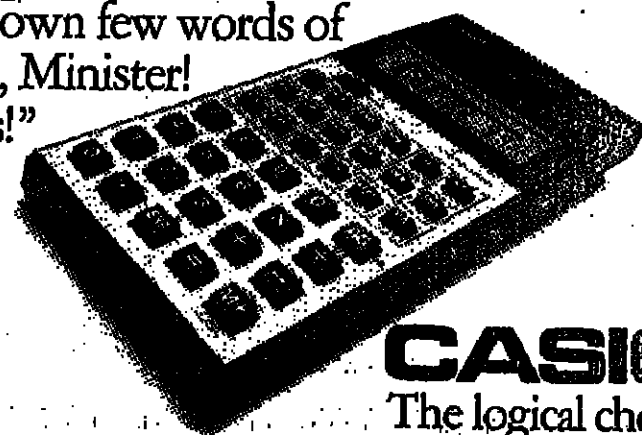
If the Court now rules that Loretta's punishment was degrading, any ban on corporal punishment in Britain would have to extend to all forms, including smacking and slapping.

Yes, Minister!

We've always believed it ourselves, and now it's official - calculators are essential for school mathematics.

That's the recommendation endorsed by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

As the makers of Britain's No.1 range of scientific and pocket calculators, we can only add our own few words of support: "Yes, Minister! Definitely yes!"



CASIO.
The logical choice

Sir Keith shrugs off HMI criticisms

Sir Keith Joseph, under attack from all sides last week after HM Inspectors' latest report savaged the state of England's school buildings, has suggested local authorities could find some money for repairs through savings in cleaning and caretaking.

The Education Secretary emphasized that the Inspectors had found slight improvements in resource provision since the previous year and had reported that most of the classroom work was satisfactory or better.

He appeared unmoved by the Inspectors' outspoken criticisms of the grim and deteriorating state of buildings and shortages of books - and the clear link they found between inadequate resources and poor work.

This year's annual report on the effect of spending policies on schools and colleges, the sixth to be published, is the first to state bluntly that, unless more resources can be found, schools are unlikely to be able to achieve the higher standards the Government wants.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the report painted a picture of schools which were "squalid, over-pressurized, riddled with inequalities and

This year's I.e.s.a. spending survey by HM Inspectors provides a blunt warning that education standards are unlikely to rise unless more resources are provided.
Report by Biddy Passmore.

deteriorating". Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman, said it was "a sweeping indictment" of the Education Secretary's policies and called on him to resign.

The report, based on visits by the Inspectorate during the autumn term of 1984, warns that some school buildings are rapidly approaching the stage where repairs are impossible and new buildings will have to be provided. "Without urgent attention to these problems, the cost of putting things right may become prohibitive," it says.

While the Inspectors conclude that there is a statistically significant association between resources and standards of work, they stress that it is not a direct causal link.

Nor are resources the most important factor, the Inspectors say. That is teaching quality, followed, in order of importance, by the identification of pupils' and students' needs; the level of

resources available; and their effective management and deployment.

They find much to criticize in the standard of management shown by heads, principals and local authorities. Nearly one-third of schools suffered from poor leadership and in nearly half the schools visited the organization of pupils' work was judged unsatisfactory in some lessons.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, called for more training of heads in the light of the Inspectors' remarks.

The overall number of teachers was satisfactory, they judged, but shortages in key subjects like maths and physics continue and teachers are often poorly deployed.

The Inspectors also uncovered a disturbing state of affairs in teacher training, where the quality of teaching was considered unsatisfactory

in half of the classes seen in initial teacher training departments in polytechnics.

Worryingly variable standards were found, the few lessons the Inspectors observed in open schools. They suggest this may be because under-qualified staff are finding it hard to cope with an apparent increase in the seriously handicapped, while many of the less severely handicapped are moving to ordinary schools, in line with the 1981 Act.

Book provision has improved slightly, the report says, but continues to vary widely between and within schools.

Overall, the Inspectors conclude: "The picture for 1984-85 remains one of an education system that is managing to get by in terms of resources and where most of what goes on is of satisfactory or better quality".

They call for "more and better resources, properly targeted on agreed priorities and with improved leadership and management, closer match of the initial qualifications, experience of teachers with the tasks they are asked to undertake; and more effective use of better matched to the needs of schools' teachers".

Cuts mean fewer science graduates, SDP leader says

by Susannah Kirkman

The university cuts proposed in the recent Green Paper on higher education will produce fewer science and technology graduates, according to Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the SDP.

A 25 per cent reduction in funding over the next 10 years would force universities to concentrate on the arts, rather than on more expensive engineering and technology courses, Mrs Williams said.

Universities would go for the cheapest courses they could find in a bid to maintain student numbers and avoid closure, she told an Industrial Society Conference, "Training for the 21st Century", last week. She accused the Government of being "over simplistic" about arts graduates, as there was plenty of room for those willing to learn about technology. Arts graduates made up 20 per cent of the employees of C.S.I., an international software company, she pointed out.

The shortage of people with engineering and technological qualifications had been vastly underestimated, Mrs Williams warned. "Britain is facing an acute skills crisis. We need the equivalent of a wartime mobilization exercise to remedy it," she said. Britain needs 60,000 more engineers, if the demands of all the manufacturing and service industries

are taken into account, according to Mrs Williams's estimates. Yet the number of graduates in electronic and electrical engineering has fallen by 10 per cent since 1982, while the number of maths and computer science graduates has slumped by 45 per cent during the same period.

Qualified technicians were also in short supply, Mrs Williams said. Successful candidates for Business and Technician Education Council qualifications at non-advanced level had increased between 1978 and 1982, but numbers were now declining again, and were not enough to compensate for the 60 per cent drop in apprenticeships since 1973.

It was wrong to think that new service industries would provide a huge growth in employment, she insisted. An expanding service industry needed a growing manufacturing industry and the US experience had shown that new jobs were more likely to be created for people with technical and graduate qualifications rather than low tech training. Of the 17 million new jobs created in the US between 1972 and 1982, over 50 per cent needed technical and graduate training.

To improve training and combat shortages, Mrs Williams proposed a five-point plan:



Some teachers have low expectations of catering students.

Marking 'too generous'

Hotel and catering students on Higher National Diploma and BTEC courses are "heavily over assessed", according to HM Inspectors.

Some teachers were too generous in their marking and their expectations were too low, Inspectors found after surveying seven colleges between October 1983 and May 1984.

But Inspectors found that project work was well planned and presented, although too much was information-based and lacked analysis and evaluation.

Time could be spent better in some colleges with large enrolments by lecturers taking larger classes, thus freeing them for tutorials. The curriculum in accommodation studies should be reviewed to make it more relevant and practical, the Inspectors say.

A survey of programmes leading to Higher National Diploma and National Diploma awards of BTEC in hotel, catering and institutional studies. Report by HMI.

Towns hold no lure for rural leavers

by Jane Pickard

Teenagers in rural Northumberland who used to have to "get on their bikes" and hunt for work in the towns are now getting jobs and training places at home.

A survey of a group of school-leavers from two middle schools in the county shows that pupils with O and A level passes are now much more likely to stay in their own locality than 10 years ago, when a similar study was carried out.

Researchers at the Community Council of Northumberland looked at 294 teenagers representing most of the former pupils from Rothbury and Wootton middle schools who left in the years 1978, 1979 and 1980 at the age of 13 and were 17 to 19 years old at the time of the study last year.

The earlier leavers had shown a greater tendency to leave the area than the more recent ones. Of the 1978 group, who left Wootton, 73 per cent of boys stayed in the area. In the 1980 group, all the boys remained. A similar pattern emerged from the Rothbury leavers. The most common employment for all the leavers was in the service industries. But there was also a marked trend for an increasing number to stay on in the sixth form. In the 1978 group from Rothbury, 2 per cent stayed on, compared with 32 per cent in the 1980 group.

The report concludes that this may have had a far-reaching effect on the pattern of migration, along with unemployment in towns. It warns that when jobs become available again elsewhere, the migration from rural areas might start again.

Training booklet

The National Youth Bureau has produced a booklet on staff and curriculum development aimed at helping adults involved in Youth Training Scheme projects - "Staff development handbook for YTS providers" is available free from the Sales Department, NYB, 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester LE1 6GD. Multiple orders 25p a copy.

Quality falls off in middle years

The Inspectors judged that teachers were doing a satisfactory job in just over three-quarters of the 13,880 classes they watched last autumn; and the quality of pupils' response was satisfactory or better in just over four-fifths of the classes seen.

They found the quality of work least satisfactory in the middle years of education. While four-fifths of nursery classes and those for 16 to 19-year-olds were satisfactory or better, the proportion dipped to only two-thirds for top juniors and 13-year-olds. The least able were once again getting the worst education.

In all, the Inspectors visited 1,540 out of the country's 26,000 infant-natal schools last autumn. These included 748 nursery and primary, 737 secondary (including sixth form colleges) and 56 special schools.

They found that only 11 out of 97 authorities had satisfactory or better levels of provision in all the main areas, compared with 14 last year. By contrast, 31 I.e.s.s. (against 28 last year) were judged to make less than satisfactory provision in most areas. Ten authorities had less than satisfactory staffing levels in their primary and secondary schools.

Poor accommodation was the resource factor most commonly associated with unsatisfactory work in primary schools, adversely affecting about one sixth of the lessons seen. It was followed by inadequate book provision, lack of suitable equipment, including furniture, and restricted range of quality of consumable materials.

Among other factors affecting the quality of work, the biggest problem - affecting one fifth of the classes seen - was teaching in groups of mixed age or ability. Others were a mismatch between teachers' qualifications and the teaching they were required to do, and the poor behaviour of pupils.

In secondary and special schools, inadequate buildings, books, furniture and equipment were also the most common factors restricting the quality of work. The biggest non-

resource problem in both cases was teaching groups with a wide range of needs and abilities.

Between September 1983 and September 1984, the number of teachers fell by 1.5 per cent, to 403,800, while the number of pupils fell faster, by 2.1 per cent. Most of the losses were in secondary schools.

Most I.e.s.s. had not changed their pupil teacher ratios by more than 0.5 in either direction since the previous year. Four out of five were judged to have enough teachers overall to meet current needs. Teachers were very unevenly deployed.

Very few authorities have a curriculum-led staffing policy, the Inspectors note: five have one for primary schools (although only two have so far felt able to implement it) and 18 for secondary schools, of whom 10 have implemented it.

Despite authorities' efforts to protect the curriculum, some schools lacked necessary subject and other expertise. Cuts had meant the removal of subjects or aspects of education in 215 schools.

Not surprisingly, the quality of teaching was the factor most affecting pupils' response.

Poor match between teachers' initial qualifications and the work they were being called upon to do had a bad effect on the quality of work in just over one eighth of all the lessons seen.

Overall provisions of classroom ancillaries was judged satisfactory in 67 out of 94 authorities and there had been an increase of 5 per cent in the number employed.

There was a need for more in-service training in one third of all primary and secondary schools visited and in more than half of the special schools. The most commonly mentioned needs related to: teaching methods; management at classroom, departmental and school levels; subject knowledge; assessment techniques; and improving the match between qualifications and experience and the teaching they do.

Inspectors praise active role in FE classes

HM Inspectors are satisfied with most of the teaching that goes on in institutions of further and higher education, both in advanced and non-advanced courses.

Just over four-fifths of the 2,255 lectures and classes they saw were satisfactory or better, with little difference between non-advanced and advanced courses. As in schools, the least effective classes were those where the lecturer adopted a formal approach, and the most effective those where students played an active part.

In non-advanced courses, most col-

leges had succeeded in adapting to changes but in one-third of visits improvements in the deployment of staff, linked to good retraining programmes, were still needed. Some lecturers in craft skills were reluctant to retrain and to transfer to pre-vocational work and Youth Training Scheme courses, the Inspectors noted.

Provision of materials for non-advanced work was judged satisfactory or better in just over four-fifths of education authorities; most of those where it was unsatisfactory were shire counties.

More information was needed on



No fewer than 17 I.e.s.s. are struggling to repair damage done by arsonists

Spending cuts causing further deterioration

The bad state of school buildings can only have got worse in 1984-85 because more than half of the education authorities in England - 55 - planned a real cut in spending on repairs, decoration and maintenance, the report says.

In 12 I.e.s.s., the cuts followed similar reductions the year before. The present state of repairs in schools was judged to be less than satisfactory or poor in 57 I.e.s.s. Many I.e.s.s. have moved to a policy of concentrating on major repairs only, and about one-third reported an increasing backlog of work. Some district inspectors judged that the general state of repairs was reaching a crisis point.

The Inspectors found the state of school decoration less than satisfactory or poor in 65 I.e.s.s. In one authority, 33 schools had not been redecorated for 14 years.

As for maintenance, the current programme was judged unsatisfactory in 65 authorities. One large shire authority calculated that the backlog of work would cost £22.5 million to clear, of which £15.3 million was classed as essential expenditure.

The cost of replacing the school building stock is currently put at £17.5 billion, the Inspectors stress. They go on: "The continued neglect of the school building stock is not only storing up potentially enormous bills for the future but is also seriously affecting the quality of work and achievement of many pupils and providing a grim environment for them and their teachers."

Most complained of the cost and disruption of removing asbestos.

Seventeen I.e.s.s. mentioned the effects of arson and 63 were able to quantify the sums of money spent on making good damage caused by vandals. Last year, one I.e.s. spent in total £1.3 million while another spent £300,000 simply on repairing broken windows.

From their visits to schools, the Inspectors judged that poor or unsuitable accommodation was adversely affecting the quality of work in just over one-fifth of all the lessons seen, even affecting those where they considered the work satisfactory.

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visited (out of a total of 39). But some lecturers were over-loaded, making it impossible for them to gain first-hand experience in schools.

The poor quality of the teaching observed was a worry: unsatisfactory in more than a quarter of all the sessions observed, and in half of those seen in the 19 polytechnic education departments. "As these tutors are models for future teachers, this high proportion of unsatisfactory teaching cannot be considered acceptable," the Inspectors remark.

Better provision of books is noted

Book provision for all age groups improved, especially in the shire counties, the Inspectors report. But not enough suitable books are still being bought, the quality of education was worrying for the 11 to 16 age group.

Book provision was satisfactory or better in over four-fifths of authorities at primary level and in just over three-quarters of authorities for 11 to 19 age group but in less than half of authorities for 11 to 16-year-olds.

The report shows a clear statistical link between books and the quality of work seen. In primary schools, half the lessons the Inspectors considered satisfactory were being adversely affected by inadequate or inappropriate book provision.

In secondary schools, the quality of work in one in eight classes was being restricted by an inadequate supply of books.

Complaints in primary schools were most frequently about the quality of the books, while they were more commonly about quantity and availability in secondary schools.

The Inspectors found a similar association between unsatisfactory work and inadequate supplies of equipment. In secondary schools, the most serious problem was the replacement of ageing, costly equipment in science and CDT in particular.

Eighteen authorities had improved their primary capital allowances in real terms since the previous year, while 16 had reduced them; the comparable figures for secondary schools were 19 and 16 I.e.s.s. respectively. Many I.e.s.s. had not changed the scope of what the allowances covered, but had widened it.

Inadequate provision is not the result of low spending, the Inspectors note. In only one tenth of schools was inadequate capital spending the direct cause of shortages. The biggest single factor was teachers' failure to identify pupils' needs and potential, which was mentioned in one-third of the schools visited.

Some schools receive contributions from parents well in excess of the primary allowances, the report says. Primary schools and schools in shire counties received the greatest share of their income from this source. Contributions to primary schools ranged from £200 to £3,250 and in secondary schools, from £100 to £20,000.

Report by HMI on the Effects of Local Authority Expenditure on Policies for Education Provision in England 1984. Copies available free from the Publications Despatch Centre, 20 Honeywell Lane, Canons Park, Watlington, Middlesex HA7 1AZ.

YTS successes

Two Welsh girls have achieved breakthroughs after completing a Youth Training Scheme course at Neath.

Sian Jenkins, 18, from Swansea, has become the first female electrical craft apprentice at Metal Box after studying machine-code programming, printed circuit board manufacture and O-level electronics.

Pat Wilsner, also 18, has become the first female apprentice instrument/electrical technician at BP Chemicals' Baglan Bay plant, after attending the same YTS course.

Low funding worries heads

Secondary headteachers in Gloucestershire have joined the chorus of criticism demanding more money to enable schools to implement curriculum change.

They warn that they cannot maintain the quality of their service unless they are given proper resources.

The demand comes in a document, *Better Schools*, issued by the Standing Conference of Gloucestershire Secondary Headteachers.

It follows similar complaints about the new GCSE exam from local authorities, exam boards and heads in other counties.

The headteachers' worries cover all proposed curriculum changes, from the new exams to the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative. They say there have been more proposals for change in the last five years than during the previous 50 years. But they point out these changes are taking place during a shortage of funds for their income from this source.

They add that the local education authority has already had to reduce its new system of staffing by 2 per cent; it was able to spend only £3 million on buildings when it had estimated it needed to spend £13 million and that the year was going up by 0.2 per cent at a time when other costs were rising much faster - for instance paper had gone up by 29 per cent.

Value of team sport challenged

Fewer team games and representative matches were advocated at a conference held last week to try and halt the decline in school sport.

The conference, attended by over 150 physical education specialists and arranged by the Central Council of Physical Recreation and the Physical Education Association on "School sport - a strategy for the future", was urged to take a sceptical look at the traditional goal of "playing for the school" - or even in any team competitions. Activities related to the health of the individual child may be more beneficial, the conference heard from Mr Len Almond, lecturer in the Department of PE, Loughborough University.

Mr Denis Howell, MP, a former Labour Minister for Sport, said this attitude worried him. Team games taught cooperation with your fellows and how to take defeat. He also thought the links between sport and education were weaker now than they were 20 years ago.

Challenging the predominance of team competitiveness, Mr Almond said there was a view prevalent that schools had some kind of responsibility for feeding the national teams. That was not the case. He questioned the value of inter-school fixtures. Were they a productive medium either for the development of the sport or for the development of the individual?

He quoted one survey of 140 PE teachers which showed they had on average spent 11 hours a week on

Some teachers are sceptical about the traditional goal of playing for the school. Bert Lodge reports.

inter-school teams. Yet those teams represented only 6-8 per cent of the school population. "Is that a proper way for a teacher to spend his time when thinking about the development of sport and PE?"

In one school, 50 first-year boys turned up after school to play soccer but after three weeks the team was picked and the number turning up subsequently dropped to 15. Yet in a similar experiment when the boys stood up during the lesson, the number turning up dropped by only 10. "The present system has constrained children. Let's look at the idea of how we can encourage more comprehensive participation. What are the repercussions of today's physical activity on the health of children? That's more important than the performance of teams."

Concern at the rapid decline in school sport was traditionally underlined by Mr Don Palmer, a London deputy head and chairman of the National Council for Schools Sports, representing 29 governing bodies of school sport. He outlined several causes:

- the declining readiness of teachers to put in hours of unpaid overtime supervising and accompanying teams;
- the widespread of activities now offered in secondary schools as "games";
- the deteriorating standard of facilities, particularly in the provision for cricket;
- in winter the growth of Sunday football, particularly for the 16-18 age group.

Mr Palmer said the decline in school provision had led to children seeking their sport outside, usually in clubs. "A lot of these are not well run, there is a



The relentless pursuit of trophies is being called into question

to put in hours of unpaid overtime supervising and accompanying teams:

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Mr Palmer said the decline in school provision had led to children seeking their sport outside, usually in clubs. "A lot of these are not well run, there is a

poor level of control and play, only bad models are there for the children to imitate and excessive physical demands are made on the more talented."

Another factor contributing to this was the duplication of representative teams. "In many counties under-18 county school teams and under-18 county FA teams are run. This year six boys were parallel in a county which was in both finals. Adequate planning is needed."

An unashamed plea for the encouragement of excellence came from Miss Sue Campbell, director of the National Coaching Foundation. This was set up three years ago by the Sports Council to encourage and disseminate the best practice in all the major sports.

- a national council should be set up to accredit all vocational and training courses and ensure progression;
- the quality of Youth Training Scheme courses should be monitored and controlled by a central network, including HM Inspectors and industrial trainers;
- student grants should be dependent on candidates completing a Technical and Vocational Education Initiative course;
- trade unions should press for a retraining levy from employers; and
- companies should provide more shared starter jobs like those at GEC in Coventry to give a greater number of young people training and work experience.

In West Germany a university place is rapidly losing its appeal for school leavers. In France, the universities are to come under independent scrutiny. TES correspondents report on problems and solutions in European higher education

Campus watchdog

FRANCE

The Socialist government's defeat next year is commonly considered a foregone conclusion, so President Mitterrand decided against celebrating its fourth anniversary this month. Instead, he held a solemn little ceremony to inaugurate a brand new university evaluation committee.

Described by *Le Monde* as a minor revolution in the history of French universities, the 50-strong monitoring body is presided over by Professor Laurent Schwartz, who has been pressing for an independent assessment of the universities since 1981.

The Education Ministry traditionally allows universities very little independence, and distributes funds according to the number of students per square metre.

Undaunted by his audience of top ministry officials and university mandarins, M. Schwartz, who is something of a rebel in academic circles, insisted that the committee must have complete autonomy.

In France, the ministry has carried out both the evaluation and the allocation of resources, he pointed out. The two functions were irreconcilable, and frequently led to unjustifiable inequalities. "If this happens again, we shall speak out."

Nominated by President Mitterrand, the committee is heavily orientated towards scientific research; the arts are barely represented and only one member is a woman. It will

produce an annual report on individual universities which will, it is hoped, provide the ministry with a better guide in the allocation of funds.

M. Schwartz said that an important task would be to let the public see how the universities function: "Our universities have their faults, but they are too often criticised and even despised. Evaluation is probably their unique chance to win back the public esteem they have lost."

M. Schwartz's enumeration of the questions the committee must answer sounded like a list of the ills besetting many French universities today: "Are the universities receptive to the outside world or are they turned in on themselves? How are they run? Are they dominated by pressure groups jealous of protecting their own advantage? Do they make the most of their teaching core and do they know how to attract the best people? Are they fulfilling their function as training centres for secondary teachers? Are they innovative? What is the quality of life like?"

President Mitterrand has assured the committee that it will be independent, and that its report will be made public.

A few days later, at the august Collège de France, President Mitterrand officially thanked its professors for responding to his request last year for guidelines on education policy (TES, May 17).

Ignoring most of their proposals, which are at variance with present policy, he has selected only three for immediate action: the creation of a new open university; an educational and cultural television channel; and extension of the new university evaluation scheme to lycées (upper secondary schools).

Mary Follain

Leavers view degree course as a 'dead end' option

GERMANY

A degree course, once a stepping stone to a secure and respected future, is increasingly being seen as a "dead end" option for West German school leavers.

Fewer than 60 per cent of this year's 270,000 candidates for the A level equivalent *Abitur* intend to go on to higher education, compared with nearly 90 per cent in 1972. Instead, many qualified for university entrance will try for traineeships in the white-collar sector, or even apprenticeships in skilled trades.

This trend reflects the rising level of graduate unemployment, which has tripled in the past five years, as job opportunities have failed to keep pace with the expansion of higher education. While the product of the baby boom years of the 1960s has swelled student numbers to a record 1.3 million, recession-prompted cuts have

closed the door to many traditional public sector careers, especially in the decade provided work for 60 per cent of graduates.

Worst hit by the opposing developments is the teaching profession, with the number of qualified teachers employed put at 60,000 by the largest teachers union, the GEW. As a result, less than 5 per cent of new undergraduates in the current academic year have chosen teacher training courses, compared with 40 per cent in 1971.

A recent two-day symposium on graduate unemployment, organized in Frankfurt by the GEW, urged Chancellor Kohl's centre-right government to abandon its pledges to cut taxes in favour of a medium-term job creation programme in the public sector, particularly in schools, universities, adult education and the social services. GEW chairman, Herr Dieter Wunder, threatened intensified teacher pro-



Technical answer: Many students qualified for university entrance will try traineeships in the white-collar sector.

tests, unless graduate employment prospects were improved.

But even following his party's bruising defeats in mid-term regional elections, Herr Kohl is firmly resisting pressure for an about turn on public sector cuts. Without government action, graduate unemployment, according to the Nuremberg Institute for Labour Market Research, will rise to two million by the year 2000, with only one in three university leavers finding work.

A further deterrent to higher education, according to the GEW, has been the present government's replacement of grants by repayable loans. A school leaver deciding about college or university has to consider not only dwindling job prospects, but also a debt of 40,000 marks (£10,000) after graduating.

In addition, the chronic overcrowding in the country's universities, built to cope with barely half the present student population, have made studying a less attractive proposition. In a recent nationwide survey organized by the Conservative Students Association

into the quality of university teaching, the most frequent complaint concerned the lack of personal contact with lecturers and professors.

This month, 20,000 medical students staged a three-day boycott of 28 universities in protest against inter-examination results, in which nearly half the country's medical students failed.

Parents, too, are favouring alternatives to higher education for their children. Almost two thirds of parents questioned in a survey by the Institute of School Development Research at Dortmund University believed the combination of *Abitur* and traineeship offered better career chances than a degree.

The growth in the number of school leavers with *Abitur* deciding against university - a total of 200,000 since 1981 - has been expressly welcomed by the federal Education Ministry, which has introduced various measures aimed at making the vocational training option more attractive.

Paul Bendelow

Anne Good reports on the growing momentum in the EEC for girls to gain more rights in education

Brussels in positive mood

For the first time positive action for girls in school will be the main item on the agenda of EEC education ministers when they meet in Luxembourg on Monday.

Following last year's initiative, under the Irish presidency of the Council, which culminated in a high-level conference on equal opportunities in education in Brussels in November.

The current president of the council, the Italian Education Minister, Franca Falcucci, has taken up the issue with enthusiasm. Ministers are now being asked to back formally a community action programme to achieve greater equality for girls in education.

Mr Peter Sutherland, the EEC Commissioner responsible for education, is confident that the ministers will agree to the plan. "This should mark the start of a new dimension in the area of education," he told the European Parliament's education committee recently. Mr Sutherland said that the EEC must try harder to ensure women's equality and that education was a key issue. Laws will not change society "unless positive action to reduce stereotyping is taken early on within the school systems", he said.

The action programme aims at guaranteeing equal access for girls and boys to all kinds of education and training and encouraging both sexes to make non-traditional subjects and career choices. The programme will stress ways of encouraging girls to move into "new and expanding sectors such as the new information technologies and biotechnology".

Under the action programme, the European Commission will fund pilot schemes on equality in schools and help members states' educational authorities draw up practical guidelines. National or local schemes which could be easily applied in other countries will get priority for funding.

The commission hopes to cooperate with teachers' unions in carrying out the action programme, which will aim to have impact on teacher training, career possibilities for women and men in the profession.

The ministers will ask the commission to carry out information campaigns, research and funding visits abroad and the setting up of a working party of senior civil servants, experts and equal opportunities bodies from all over the EEC to pool experience and monitor the action programme.

All this will depend on finance and Parliament. Mr Sutherland told the European Parliament committee he hoped the programme would be given "appropriate" funding in the 1986 EEC budget. Some EEC officials fear that ministers will not follow up their political commitment with a financial one and that the programme will remain a token gesture. That particular battle will be fought next week when negotiations on the 1986 budget open.

For Sir Keith Joseph, who will attend the ministers' meeting, another item on the agenda will be of "burning interest", according to a British government official in Brussels. Cooperation between higher education and industry is "extremely topical in the UK", he said and the Italian presidency has asked ministers to look at ways in which the Community can encourage such links.

The Italians will point out that the EEC has already launched research and development programmes in in-

formation technologies and industry. Technologies but has done little to ensure that industry can find sufficient numbers of engineers, executives and technicians to put the research into practice.

Mr Sutherland has already called for a similar programme, to be called COMETT (Community Programme for Education and Training for Technologies), and to include community backing for student placement in companies, joint production of teaching materials, technical and management training and information exchange.

The ministers will be asked to look at ways to tackle two basic problems of training in Europe: initial training in higher education which is too academic and company training cut off from the universities. For the first time since 1976, education ministers will also discuss teaching about Europe and the development of a "European identity" in schools. The European Commission is asking the ministers to back its plans for increasing cooperation between higher education institutions in the community. In comparison with its main industrial rivals, the US and Japan, Europe does little to foster contacts between students and teachers across national boundaries. This is reflected in the fact that only 1 per cent of European students are currently studying in another member state.

The commission would like to change this by expanding its higher education cooperation. It will be asking the ministers to give a budget for these programmes in 1986 and to launch an EEC scholarship scheme to help students do part of their studies in another EEC country.

Higher and lower orders

After four relatively placid years at the Education Department, the Reagan administration is now vigorously promoting a staunchly right-wing agenda for public education (see right).

The Education Secretary William Bennett has given the back of his hand to policies aimed at equalizing educational chances for poor, handicapped, minority and low-achieving youngsters - policies initiated more than two decades back and quietly maintained by his predecessor, Terrell Bell.

In place of that equal opportunity



DAVID KIRP'S

AMERICA

agenda, there is an unprecedented effort to involve Washington more directly in shaping the ideological content of public education.

The Heritage Foundation, an influential conservative think tank in Washington, spelled it out in a White Paper prepared shortly after Reagan's 1980 election; and the President himself turned "back to basics". Under Secretary Bell, though, those ideological pressures were kept firmly under control.

But things began to change dramatically after Mr Bell announced his retirement last winter. The Heritage Foundation assumed centre stage. It actually screened prospective successors, including Bennett, on behalf of the White House, something that had never been done before. And, under Mr Bennett, the foundation's daydreams have become the conventional wisdom.

Mr Bennett is a thoughtful conservative, and some of his suggestions - for greatly increasing the attention paid to history in the schools and for a curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking - while not exactly new, have been well-taken. His subordinates, however, have been another story.

One staffer appointed by Bennett was Lawrence Uzzell, the man fired by Bell. In a recent hearing on aid to handicapped pupils, before a Senate committee, Uzzell blamed the decline in students' overall Scholastic Aptitude Test scores on increased spending for the handicapped, the theory apparently being that ordinary children were being shortchanged.

Far more outrageous were the positions advanced at the same hearing by Eileen Marie Gardner, selected by Bennett to head up a new Office of Educational Philosophy and Practice. Gardner derided the handicapped as a "selfish" interest group - and a "lower" group to boot that has "drained resources from the normal school population."

Nor was that all, for it turns out that Gardner, being a philosopher, was nothing if not consistent. She believed in higher and lower orders of everything, premised on a person's "level of inner spiritual development... Nothing comes to an individual that he has not (at some point in his life) summoned."

This exposition proved too much even for Bennett, who responded to a firestorm of criticism by disassociating himself from Uzzell and Gardner, shortly thereafter, the two appointees resigned.

Secretary Bennett is currently promoting a merger of the Education Department's research arm, overseen by a board comprised not of scholars but of politically reliable types, with the bureau that collects national education statistics. This shift raised the spectre that data will be collected in order to promote a cause. And however this latest issue gets resolved, Bennett retains close ties to the Heritage Foundation. They are his real counsel - and that's continuing bad news for those concerned about equity.

Streaming in two-track schools urged by Bennett

UNITED STATES

The US Education Secretary, Mr William Bennett, whose first three months in office have tended to be longer on rhetoric than action, has thrown another stone into the educational pond by suggesting that American high schools should stream their pupils on European lines.

He told a Chicago newspaper last week that he favoured two-track schools, offering one course of study for students bound for college and another for those who are not. Such a move would fly in the face of current practice which offers, at least in theory, equality of opportunity for all.

However, he balked at the idea of selection for his proposed system. He said that students would be allowed to choose their "track", rather than be sorted out by tests.

There were no more details, possibly because Mr Bennett is a former professor of philosophy and law who has no experience of teaching practices in schools.

The only reaction so far has come from Ms Mary Futrell, president of the National Education Association. She is wholeheartedly against the idea.

Meanwhile, the Education Secretary has been getting himself into another confused situation in Chicago. Some weeks ago he agreed to join a



William Bennett

task force of political, business and educational heavyweights, being set up to tackle the growing problem of the city's schools. Chicago has a high school dropout rate of 45 per cent, and a history of labour disputes between teachers and the school board.

Mr Bennett has now changed his mind. When news of his participation in the Chicago project leaked out he was besieged by requests to join similar panels elsewhere - all of which were turned down by his staff. He has now told the Chicago organizers that he will participate - but he will not be a member of the panel. Last week, no one at the Education Department was quite sure what that meant.

Bill Norris

Bill Norris reports on some student innovators

New dimension

Not too many high school students get geometric theorems named after them, but Rob Stringer of Weston, Massachusetts, has just joined the exclusive band.

Stringer, in his second year at high school, was better known for his casual dress and his messy homework papers before achieving instant fame. What he did was to find a new way of dividing a triangle into five parts, and he did it by using a computer. "I knew immediately that this was something totally different and new," said his teacher, Richard Houde.

The theorem, now known to posterity as "Stringer's conjecture", was arrived at by using a program developed by Judah Schwartz, an engineering science and education professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and co-director of Harvard University's educational technology centre. Known as the "geometric supposer", it enabled Stringer to test

his hunch by constructing and measuring triangles of different dimensions much more quickly than would have been possible by hand. The program allows students to measure lengths, areas and angles, by pressing a few buttons.

When Professor Schwartz designed the program, he had in mind the clear aim of letting students understand that they, too, could participate in the making of science. "Once you have a mechanism for exploring conjectures, you're more likely to make them," he said. "If we were to teach writing the way we teach maths, students would keep reading sonnets by Donne and plays by Shakespeare and never write a word of poetry or a line of prose."

Rob Stringer's success has inspired his classmates, who are now anxious for the same notoriety. "All my students want to be famous," says Houde. "They keep running up to me with their solutions and asking, 'Did I come up with something new?'"

Sound investment

Some time in 1987, if all goes well, the Space Shuttle will be taking off with an experiment on board which has been created from scratch by a group of high school students. The students, members of a programme for gifted pupils in Norfolk, Virginia, have been working for almost 12 months on a project which has attracted the attention of scientists in England and elsewhere.

What they are doing is to take a sound wave experiment that has been done on Earth, and adapt it to the Space Shuttle where it will be free of

gravity-induced errors. By beaming a high frequency sound at a sphere, they will study how a sound wave pushes a solid object without the interference of a gravitational pull.

The outcome could lead to improved methods of checking for cracks in aircraft wings, or enhancing ultrasound testing of pregnant women.

The project's chief engineer is Casey Gollhofer, a 17-year-old who hopes to be an aerospace engineer. "School's pretty easy to me," he said, "but this isn't easy. This is like work."

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It's time for an open-minded look at promotion

Sir - My experiences in recent weeks have led me to the belief that pressing for increased standards in the teaching profession is causing an unjustifiable narrowing of outlook in those responsible for appointing teachers.

I entered the primary teaching profession almost six years ago with a degree from Oxford, a year's work experience and a PGCE in primary education. After qualifying, I had over two years' successful classroom teaching experience. My mistake was to seize the opportunity to live in Australia for a couple of years. There, at a time of high teacher unemployment, I considered myself fortunate to obtain a job teaching in a large private junior school.

The methods used in the school were at odds with much English primary practice but I found my experience of a traditional education system to be, at worst, thought-provoking and, at best, stimulating and challenging. I kept in touch with educational thought through study for a Masters degree in Education which I was awarded this year, with merit, after three years of demanding part-time study.

On my return to England in September, I found my experience in Australia consistently counted against me when I applied for teaching positions. I was advised to undertake supply or part-time work in order to "prove" myself. This I did and obtained two part-time positions in small schools

where I undertook responsibility for the teaching and development of science. I worked hard to become familiar with curriculum developments and to implement them in the schools. I did "prove" myself to my headteachers and they have provided excellent references for my recent job applications.

But it seems this is not enough. I am not even being considered for most of the promotional appointments for which I apply, because my present posts are only part-time. At a recent interview I did attend for a Scale 2 post in science no appointment was made. Following a gruelling one hour long interview before a panel of twelve people, I was told that my qualifications were excellent, that I interviewed impressively but that my classroom teaching abilities remained unproven. I had also, through a year of part-time teaching, become over-specialized in science. I was advised to apply for Scale 1 positions.

I do not claim to be a "super-teacher" but what do our employers want in a Scale 2 post? I, for one, would welcome restructuring of the teaching profession if it would lead to open-minded appointment bodies.

SUSAN BUTCHER
Homeaway House
Westbury
Glastonbury
Somerset

Tossed aside

Sir - I read Elizabeth Ashdown's letter "Older women" (TES, May 17) and felt immediate sympathy and understanding of her situation.

I did not start my teaching career until my mid-forties. I obtained my first post with little difficulty (jobs were plentiful) and I was advised by one college tutor to stay just for a year or so and then look elsewhere.

My first year was far from easy, but I had a helpful headmaster and most supportive colleagues and so I survived. It seemed ungrateful after having been nurtured and helped through all my teaching problems and having cut my teeth (one needs a good, strong set of these days) that I should then put them to use elsewhere.

Some time afterwards being more experienced and in what I thought was my prime in my career I tried for promotion in other schools. I then tried several times for demotion, but nearer home, (a financial advantage): I did not achieve a single interview.

Recently I have attempted a crab-like sideways movement and I have also applied to teach adults in evening classes - I am interested in Continuing Education and Education for the Third Age - the result - nothing at all. I imagine that one look at my date of birth or inquiry about it and my application forms and letters are tossed into the waste paper bucket.

I can see now that in education (and I suspect in other walks of life) a man can get to the top, or near it, when he is mediocre. A woman needs to be husbandless, childless, ruthless or brilliant - or all four.

PAMELA MILLER
Little Oaks
Painters Foral
Faversham
Kent

Declining role

Sir - I read with great interest Hilary Wilce's article "Pay cuts crumb for women" (TES, May 3) in which she quotes recently published figures from the NUT's internal analysis regarding male / female roles in education.

The situation described certainly reflects the experiences of our members and their understanding of the current role of women in education, namely that the situation regarding their placement in the most senior posts is worsening rather than improving.

Many of our members work in co-educational schools and recognize the value of having male and female pupils and teachers in the same school. However, it is noted and requested, as indicated in the article, that the number of women heads has declined along with the number of girls' schools.

At our conference last year 140 of the 160 delegates present had attended single sex schools for girls. Even allowing for the fact that there were more such schools when many of the senior women present were at school, such a large majority gave rise to reflection upon the virtues and value of single sex versus co-educational education. Do girls develop more fully as leaders and decision makers in single sex schools and, if this is so, what can be done to transport to the co-educational school those circumstances which allow for success in these areas?

HEATHER SHAW
Chairperson
Women in Education: The National
Association
12 Pym Street
Heywood, Lancs

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House-trained

Sir - When the Reverend Peter Mullen decided to take up arms against Saturday morning television for children - "Saturday morning fever" (TES, May 17) - he did so with a forcefulness and clarity which is only to be admired. Sadly, however, the factual basis of his argument left a good deal to be desired.

After discussion with my colleagues, I cannot accept Mr Mullen's sweeping generalization that all Saturday morning programmes are presented by "personality" types, by his own definition, being people who appear regularly on television. No 73 is, in fact, presented by actors, each portraying a carefully structured role within the television "house". Each character is clearly defined by appearance, attitude and approach. Far from exchanging "sub-conversational grunts", we attempt to deal with topics ranging from early boy-girl relationships to unemployment and financial hardships. As far as I am concerned, from the assertion that we are pumping out vacuous entertainment for a studio audience.

Your correspondent is dismissive of the "flashing lights and black leather" aspect of Saturday morning television. The pop scene is obviously not to his taste but it cannot be dismissed out of hand. Also, the pop music content of any 1 hour 20 minute No 73 programme is, at most, five minutes. The children's team at TVS have, over three years, striven to develop a house that children believe in totally.

No celebration

Sir - To illustrate the absurdity of the current state of teachers' salaries I should like to relate the following incident which happened to me last week.

I attended an interview for a Scale 3 Head of Department job at a school near Slough and from eight people interviewed was offered the post. Instead of this being a cause for celebration as one might expect, it quickly turned into a cause for concern as I realized that to accept the job and move into the area would result in a drop in the standard of living (a modest one by any standards) currently enjoyed by myself and my wife and two small children.

Reluctantly I turned the job down having worked out that promotion would mean we were financially worse off. The facts are: my present salary is £21,000. The mortgage repayments are £20,000. If I had taken the Scale 3 post from September my salary (including an increment and the London Fringe allowance) would have risen to approximately £11,000, assuming the Government allows a 4 per cent increase in teachers' salary. To buy a house in the Slough area, even approaching the standard of our modest three-bedroom turn-of-the-century terrace house in the Medway Valley would have meant a mortgage of £30,000-£35,000.

There are those who would say the fault lies with house prices or that the situation is not unique to the teaching profession but I cannot help feeling that if in "industry" I had been "the right man for the job" I would have no need to relate this sorry tale now.

Surely it is time that the 33 per cent erosion of pay since 1974 is recognized by the Government and steps taken to see that my unhappy experience does not happen to others.

A LAW
173 Nelson Road
Gillingham
Kent

About turn!

Sir - As the current salaries dispute continues, and especially in view of the inflammatory statements of the Secretary of State, I am forced to reflect on the value which this country seems to put on the services of its teachers, and on the way that this seems to have changed during my career.

Almost 30 years ago, when I left the Army as a senior NCO, and took up teaching, my pay increased by 100 per cent. Today, a young man making a similar transfer could obtain an increase of 65 per cent - but only if he made the change in the reverse direction!

G H KITCHIN
Cheadle High School
Cheadle
Stock-on-Trent

Saturday morning fever

Teachers are fighting a losing battle against television and video. Peter Mullen argues.

There have been a number of excellent programmes on television and video in the last few years. The quality of the production and the clarity of the presentation are often of a high standard. The programmes are often well timed and well presented. The quality of the production and the clarity of the presentation are often of a high standard. The programmes are often well timed and well presented.

● TES May 17

and characters who do arouse definite emotions within young viewers. Our aim has been to focus the individual child's attention.

Our occasional phone-ins seek the callers' opinions on the development of the storyline or their participation in one of the morning's activities. Precious air-time is not wasted with details of their favourite videos or the colour of pop stars' pyjamas.

Without a studio setting or audience, personalities or endless prizes, we have attempted to create an atmosphere in which a multitude of subjects can be dealt with frankly and adequately. It is a genuine attempt to get



Mr Mullen's television programme for children - "Saturday morning fever" (TES, May 17) - he did so with a forcefulness and clarity which is only to be admired.

well away from the type of programme so roundly denounced in Peter Mullen's article.

Constructive criticism is welcomed but Mr Mullen's attack appears to be based on a rather dated and random piece of television viewing.

Let me assure him that you cannot patronise a television audience of children. They are not only demanding but critical and have a very clear idea of where the "off" button is.

SANDI TOKSVIG
(Ethel of No 73)
TVS
Maidstone

Human skills

Sir - It seems to me that the continuing controversy about computers in the classroom could be seen in a larger perspective. Consider, for instance, the argument, recently aired on television, that computers decrease arithmetical skills.

The larger perspective is this: we have computer technology and it is here to stay. The ability of machines to store and retrieve information inevitably raises the question, "What are human skills?", since machines can obviously perform better in areas which until recently were thought to be specifically human.

If machines can perform better with arithmetical information than humans can, it is arguable that this is not specifically human function; it would then follow that to train our children in it is to train them in something which is both mechanical and outmoded.

If this is so, then perhaps we should be letting the machines do what they are best at, and then humans may find what they are best at. I submit that it is to train them in something which is both mechanical and outmoded.

Letting the machines do what they are best at, and then humans may find what they are best at. I submit that it is to train them in something which is both mechanical and outmoded.

RAH WATERFIELD
President
Soros International
1 Ashford Road
Cricklewood
London NW2

Silent friend

Sir - I would not presume to challenge Andrew Cowie (TES, April 26) on the soundness of his views regarding the use of microcomputers in schools, but I feel that he has rather missed the point.

Hypocrisy

Sir - The remarks attributed to Mr Dunn in your report of his address to the Professional Council for Religious Education will surely prompt a response from many of your readers. Regarding school worship - this is a cherished privilege for those who are believers, be they Christian, Muslim, Hindu, or whatever. As a Christian I do not want children to conclude that it is something that anyone can do, regardless of personal faith. To invite children in our maintained system (I say nothing of denominational schools), to assemble for an act of worship knowing that most of them and the majority of their teachers have no religious belief is to cheapen worship and encourage hypocrisy. It is Christians and other believers more

than any other groups or individuals who should oppose Mr Dunn and seek the abolition of school worship, if he attempts to enforce the letter of the Act.

Underlying Mr Dunn's remarks is the view that schools are appropriate places for promoting religious belief. This is an opinion which many specialise in religious education, most of them Christians like myself, have rejected. Schools should teach about religion and about politics, so that Britain may be an informed and educated democracy, but schools should also be non-religious and non-political as institutions.

W OWEN COLE
134 Worcester Road
Chichester
West Sussex

Don't confuse school sport with PE

Sir - It was with dismay that I read the attack on the "current state of physical education in this country" by Nigel Hook (TES, May 17). There seem to be some very serious misconceptions about physical education in his article, surprising when one considers the high office he holds.

School sport is not physical education. It may be an important part of it but for the 80 per cent of children not able enough to represent the school, it is not educationally relevant. Is Mr Hook suggesting that we forsake these children to produce players for our national teams? It is my opinion, together with many of my colleagues, that we should, through the latest

developments in the teaching of games, allow all children the pleasure and satisfaction of being able to play, and more importantly, understand games - a privilege hitherto reserved for the more talented players.

If Mr Hook and his fellow critics looked more closely at what they call the "charade" of the physical education programme they will see that this philosophy underpins all of the modern PE curriculum. The task is to educate all the children, not coach the talented few. Modern programmes are designed with "learning" as the priority, so that this understanding can develop, not only in games, but in gymnastics, and dance, indeed all

aspects of the curriculum. The health-related fitness programmes (this being a more correct description, so scathingly mentioned, are in fact designed to increase levels of performance and participation in all sports by increasing knowledge of the development of fitness and health, and how to maintain and promote that development by their own initiative using the facilities increasingly available in local leisure centres.

Thus, an important aim of physical education is to encourage and equip the young person to continue his or her physical education after leaving school, whether employed or not. If this results in Mr. Tennick and his

colleagues enjoying higher standards at national level, many physical educators would applaud, but this would be the end rather than the means.

Finally, one area where I agree with Mr Hook is that any encouragement given to teachers who supervise teams in their own time would be beneficial. However, as far as his arguments are concerned, he should know that you don't always win the game merely by putting the ball in the other person's court.

ALAN MOULD
Head of PE
Archbishop Moynan RC High School
Venue
Cardiff



The task is to educate all children.

Maximum effort

Sir - I was delighted to read the article by Virginia Minkins (TES, May 17) about Chamberlayne Wood primary school. Her description of the sound work done there is very true, but it was a pity that she did not tell your readers that such a school can only achieve such standards if the leadership of the headteacher is outstanding. And the leadership at Chamberlayne Wood school is superb, as I know the teachers there would agree.

During the headship of Gill Pitt the school has undergone a major improvement. There were many months of disruption when builders swarmed over the school, but in spite of that, Mrs Pitt and her staff did not weaken in their determination to ensure that the children would derive maximum benefit from their school days.

Chamberlayne Wood can rightly be proud of its achievements, and Mrs Minkins has done them a good deed.

GWENETH M RICKUS
Formerly director of education
London Borough of Brent
2 Cranwell Close
Bransgore
Christchurch, Dorset

Bee-wildering

Sir - There is plenty of scope for beekeeping in primary schools and there are plenty of young beekeepers about (TES, May 17). Teaching beginner beekeepers, however, needs a careful plan. The photograph of two young beekeepers introducing the series "Good primary practice" is atrocious.

As a beekeeper of many years, headmaster of a primary school, vice-chairman of the Cheshire Beekeepers Association and chairman of the education committee, I must protest at this extremely bad start: your photograph depicts two beekeepers and an opened hive precariously balanced on two bricks, one child is wearing neither veil, nor gloves nor wellingtons. This child would most certainly be stung under real conditions.

To put a caption that this is good primary practice is misleading. I hope that you and the school involved have adequate insurance cover because if this is an example of good primary practice, you are going to need it.

A A J VAN SUCHTELEN
Headmaster
Oughtlington County Primary School
Howard Avenue
Lymm, Cheshire

Overworked

Sir - In all the furor over Dr Rae and what he did or did not write (TES, May 17), everyone seems to have missed one point. The article states "even the headmaster was teaching 18 periods a week - a full timetable for most ordinary masters in most public schools".

If this statement is true, it is no wonder Dr Rae was impressed by the teaching. My own timetable at head of a large practical department is 35 periods a week and I am sure this is not exceptional.

JOHN ELLERBY
19 The Esplanade
Hornsea
East Yorkshire

Elite group

Sir - John Walton (TES, May 10) and other physics teachers will be interested to know that fifth-form pupils responding to a talk-and-shoot approach seem to occupy an "elite" stereotype grouping in physics classes. Recent research shows that such pupils are invariably introverted boys who seem to care little for the processes of physics but see the subject as just a body of factual knowledge to be mastered. However, this elitist group do seem to understand the subject - it is not necessary for these pupils to learn by experiment to learn physics.

For this does not mean that physics should not be taught by experiment. Most other pupil-groups, including nearly all the girls, benefit or could benefit in terms of both enjoyment and good grades when the learning actively involves manipulating equipment.

A W PELL
1 The Barton Close
Dallington, Northampton

A level grading

Sir - I am sure that Christopher Price would agree that mere repetition of a fallacy does not make it less fallacious. I suppose, however, that Charles Smith's recent allegations in *The Guardian* about the GCE A level system were too convenient to be ignored (Diary, TES, May 17), even though they were based on a disturbing combination of ignorance and misunderstanding.

The GCE boards have never allowed themselves to be manipulated to reduce A level awards so as to restrict entries into higher education. The boards regard themselves as being under a firm, moral obligation to keep to standards of performance required for the award of particular grades constant from year to year. If the Government reduces the number of university places available, then admissions officers have the unenviable task of tightening up their entrance requirements, as Mr Price points out and as most of your readers will

have realized. As for the investigation into the A level grading system ("row" as Mr Price calls it), the inadequacies were first raised publicly by the JMB in 1969, although the resulting attempt to get the Government to change the system failed at the last hurdle. The JMB launched a further attempt at reform in June 1983 (the JMB leaflet "Problems of the GCE Advanced level grading scheme" was widely reported in the press at the time). The argument was taken up by *The Guardian* about a year later, by which time a new investigation had already been set in motion by the Secondary Examinations Council.

Christopher Price would be welcome to come to the JMB to look around and bring himself up to date on the realities of public examinations. His last visit took place many years ago and he might find a further visit useful.

COLIN VICKERMAN
Secretary to the
Joint Matriculation Board

Indisputable

Sir - On May 17 Mike Durham implied that North Yorkshire County Council had signed the six point declaration on teachers' pay drawn up by the NUT, and stated that the Authority "has been in internal dispute over the issue". This is not the case because:

● The chairman of the education committee, authorized by an all party group of members, has drafted the Authority's own statement concerning teachers' pay and this has been agreed both with the NUT and the NAS/ UWT.

● There has been no internal dispute of any kind on this issue.

F F EVANS
County Education Officer
County Hall
Northallerton

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Problems in history

MARION SHARPLES
& RUTH HUDSPITH

History's place in the curriculum is assured and will be strengthened. This has happened through the emphasis on problem-solving and decision evaluation, encouraged especially by TVEI. History is inherently the greatest source of information on all aspects of policy formation, executive decisions, and their impact at international, national and household levels.

The roots of the present curriculum initiatives lie in policy science. The best short account we know is by Y. Diner in *From Management Science to Policy Science*, in *Public Policy* ed C. Pollitt. Policy science seems to us to be

a synthesis of the strategies of American comparative politics, management science, and "Technik" the German word for solution of problems using all the disciplines. It is very "time-sensitive".

Mr Nigel Lawson implemented one of its techniques in 1983. He set up two groups to study the problem of unemployment. The brief of one group was to study and report on the efforts being made by present governments of many countries to ease this massive problem. The other group was to enquire into unemployment and policies in the 1930s. This group presented its 23rd paper to Mr Lawson in the autumn of 1984. One result seems to be a better understanding of what J. M. Keynes actually said.

Before A. P. Taylor goes through the roof of All Souls, may we point out that policy science does not see history as a blue-print for the future. Yet at least it might be possible to avoid the repetition of bad decisions and high-light choices, and decisions of high risk and minimum risk. Furthermore his-

torical knowledge can be of present use. Barnes Wallis's bouncing bomb was suggested to him by the techniques of Nelson's gunners at the Battle of the Nile and the Flying Fortress formation by the Armada's Eagle Formation.

History can help to understand success and failure. It can suggest ways of removing constraints. The present quiet revolution in the City of London to provide easier access to risk capital is based on German financial systems in use since the mid-nineteenth century.

The alternative to problem-oriented history is to study the subject for sheer pleasure without attempting to understand it. While that is a perfectly valid interest, we are being shaken out of luxuries and ruts by Sir Keith Joseph and Lord Young, and rightly so. The problems of unemployment, defence costs, famine and pollution threaten to out-run our capacity to deal with them. TVEI and all revisions of school work are part of a national campaign for training in methods of information search, decision making, discussion of

ideas from all sources, and evaluation of what we have done. History scores high in all these respects, especially the last.

The trouble with best practice is that its frontiers are always moving forward. Perhaps the engineers understand this better than any. The speed with which inset programmes and internal revisions of schemes of work are moving in creating intense stress. We got on our horses and, like Brownings' hero, "galloped off in all directions".

So from our outpost near Hadrian's frontier, we make a request.

To ease the fast diffusion of good practice in history, my school invites all teachers of history to forward one early typed example of a problem-based teaching unit. We suggest that the unit be based on the useful structure of the economics project:

- Key concepts of ideas
- Core information
- Organization (this might follow "Jutland" in Dickinson and Lee's His-

tory Teaching)

- Main skills tested
- Main resources

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The Historical Association will discuss problem-solving at a conference next July. An existing resource bank would provide a useful basis for analysis. We would especially welcome work which are multi-cultural or which examine the relationships between political decisions, and either economic or military decisions.

Please forward your contribution to: The History Department, Haydon Bridge High School, Haydon Bridge, Northumberland, NE47 6LR.

Marion Sharples is deputy head and head of history at Haydon Bridge. Ruth Hudspith will be head of history from September.

Make space for parents

JOHN RUDD

Reading the concern of many teachers regarding the presence of parents in our schools reinforces my belief that despite so much huffing and puffing the walls of misguided professionalism are still standing. The barriers built by generations of teachers are still as firm as ever and the isolation and alienation of our parents continues unabated.

The parent is the key figure in any child's education; to ignore their effects upon the child is a grave error; to disregard the benefits of close cooperation is a useless waste of opportunity.

The horror stories of illiterate grandparents taking reading lessons are, I agree, frightening, but I believe exceptional, particularly in schools where there has been a thoughtfully planned approach to parental involvement.

As a school which has, for many years, been a forerunner in the area of parental involvement, we have a quite clearly defined policy towards parental assistance, the main factor being that the parent is involved largely with the education of their own child. The Belfield Reading Project linked parents into their own child's reading development. It asked for and, in the main, received the assistance of the parent in giving direct support each evening towards their child's reading programme.

This has had the all-important effect of creating a supportive home learning environment in what had been a largely negative educational atmosphere. It has brought teacher and parent closer together and ensured a consistent approach to a major curricular area both at home and at school.

There are, of course, numerous projects of a similar nature throughout the country, notably in the FACT scheme in London and in Coventry. These schemes and others similar do not in any way threaten professionalism or status but give parents their undeniable right to share in the responsibility of their child's education.

A similar project, again aimed at reading, invites parents into school to work with their own children in reading games. Once again, the emphasis is on working with their own child although some parents who work will arrange a surrogate for their child.

This session, a copy of the scheme begun at Fox Hill in Sheffield, is supervised by a teacher; preparation with the parent being seen as essential. Less direct contact is also available where parents join the infant children in an activity afternoon once a week. Here, parents join groups of children in table games, play activities, painting and modelling. These occasions are seen as an enjoyable and friendly session with children, parents and teachers involved together. The possibilities of language development are greatly extended, play improved and the opportunity for talk increased with the addition of interested adults.

There are, of course, numerous other examples where the involvement of parents brings a further dimension. Many parents have skills which we cannot afford to ignore. Our "litter-brought-a-study-of-toys in the past alive in personal interviews with a group of third year children. None of the examples quoted are in any way a threat to teachers, more likely an enrichment of the educational process within the school.

There are, of course, safeguards and procedures which would be followed in many cases where parents and the community become involved in working situations. But let us remember whose children they are; parents have a right to be involved. The education of the young is a responsibility we must learn to share. Perhaps the parents' understanding of what goes on in schools will decrease their suspicion and bring teachers and education the support we need to maintain a system under threat.

John Rudd is head of Belfield Community School, Rochdale.

Hard going at start

ARTHUR PICKERING

I am surprised that Valerie Marshall (*TES*, April 5) finds so much to criticize in the English Syllabus B of the Northern Examining Association. The points made regarding teachers' work-load are perfectly understandable and justified. Any schools entering candidates for this syllabus, which are not familiar with the JMB Alternative D, will find it tough going to begin with.

However, as one who is experienced in Alternative D, as a class teacher and inter-school assessor, I would suggest that it is an excellent method of teaching English, and that it more accurately measures a candidate's true ability. The new Syllabus B smoothly takes the place of Alternative D and Mode III CSE courses, and eliminates the irritation of having students who develop to O level standard late in a Mode 3 course.

The new Syllabus B does look like a daunting task for all teachers involved in the teaching of English. It would, I am sure, be helpful if more contact could be made between teachers experienced in Alternative D and those who will be teaching the new Syllabus B, where doubts could be discussed and many worries dispelled.

Some points made by Valerie Marshall were rather contentious. The wording associated with grade U (which, incidentally, does not correspond to the old grade below 'O' level grade E) is not offensive taken in the right context. I do not see how a candidate could have the ability and motivation to be described as having put in "much time and trouble" and still be in the category for grade U. I think it is unfortunate that U was chosen because of its links with the 'O' level grading system. The grade would equate to the old CSE grade 6, which,

to my mind, indicates a candidate who has not tried, or, more significantly, a candidate whose special difficulties suggest that a different course would have been more appropriate.

The work "done unaided in class" can simply mean the comprehension tests which are a normal part of English teaching.

With regard to the description of assignments, preparation time etc. this again is not as complicated as it may seem. After stating the average length of a lesson in a particular school, it is then only a matter of stating something like "Two lessons discussion followed by three homeworks to complete."

The description of assignments is essential for external assessors so that they can understand the task set. Here again, only a brief description is needed, and schools may use the same assignment for several different groups, thereby reducing the final list of assignment descriptions.

With regard to the credibility of the system, the JMB Alternative D has run for many years, without any serious problems. It also needs to be fully understood, that the class teacher's assessment is followed by internal moderation, followed by inter-school assessment, with the final safeguard being the Review Panel, which determines the accuracy of a school's grades. Only after this lengthy procedure, are grades confirmed or modified.

I see the partial control of an examination system by teachers as a tremendous benefit to the profession and to students, not as an 'ominous' move by the examining boards. I am fully convinced that the system of examination by coursework, is more satisfying to the student, and, even-tempered to the teachers involved. A system which is designed to allow students to display their abilities over a period of four terms, must be a better alternative to trying to be creative to order at a specific time, on a specific day, as required by the present system.

Arthur Pickering is senior master at Sheldon Heath Comprehensive, Birmingham.

Practical philosophy

CHRISTOPHER THOMSON

Half-way through his teaching practice and dismayed by the struggle to maintain the attention and interest of his second-yearers, Mr Thomson resolved upon a measure to bolster his flagging confidence.

Toward the end of the lesson he asked for quiet and when the voices round the classroom lulled, he wrote on the blackboard:

Si come dice lo Filosofo nel principio de la Prima Filosofia, tutti li uomini naturalmente desiderano di sapere.

It did his heart good just to see those words, but as he turned to the class, voices were once again ringing out:

"What language is that?"

"Quiet!" Mr Thomson called.

"Quiet!" It's Italian, it means, 'As the Philosopher says at the beginning of the First Philosophy, all men naturally desire to know'."

There was a brief silence before Damien called from the back, "Know what?"

"That's exactly it, Damien!" cried Mr Thomson, enthusiastically.



Humming as they work

Virginia Makins visits a first school where teachers aim to stay in the background.

Towards the end of a sunny May day at Barnby Dun First School near Doncaster, several children in a reception class for four to six-year-olds seemed to be humming as they wrote, and sewed, and measured, and painted.

Out in the central space of the semi open-plan school, several children played for long spells. Two were giving each other breakfast in the well-furnished home corner, two others were sorting out bridal clothes from the well-stocked dressing-up and year and boxes.

One six or seven-year-old had built himself a steam engine out of large wooden bricks. It was an enormous and surprisingly effective model. The cab was much taller than he was, and had a beautifully curved front; the boiler was a long plank sticking out from the cab, carefully counter-weighted, with a funnel and dome balanced on it.

His was one of the classes that had recently visited the York Railway museum, and the walls were covered with art and folders with information and stories about trains. Even the youngest four-year-olds - most of whom came into the school with no nursery or playgroup experience - had made striking pictures, drawn or painted or sewn in wool, and had dictated several pages of writing to their teacher, which they had then carefully traced over.

The variety and contentment and general air of concentration and calm extended all the way up the school. No doubt the teachers do, on occasion, raise their voices - but I didn't hear one do it in a whole day, even when working in the hall on drama or music or number games for the younger ones.

Every morning before playtime the whole school comes together and children explain and show some of their work, talk, sing, and improvise a couple of prayers. Even by the high standards of many primary assemblies, it seemed an unusually spontaneous and civilized occasion. One or two children caught my eye, not with the usual furtive glance, but giving me a warm smile before turning back to the proceedings.

Some seven and eight-year-olds who had been investigating things round the school described their work, then walked round the circle of children displaying some of it. Two boys had been looking at the milk crates, and after weighing empty and full bottles to work out the weight of the milk, had found some interesting patterns, based on the spaces between the bottles as well as the obvious shapes.

Two girls had been out in the car park, comparing the sizes of wheels, after measuring diameters and circumferences. They'd also decided to add up all the licence numbers - no doubt more than most maths scheme arithmetic, and something they'd chosen to do.

The head, Shirley Iwanyskyj (say it Iwanetski) commented on the work, more than once emphasizing to the younger ones that the children had not been told what to do, but simply been asked to look at something and think what they might find out about it.

The assembly ended with children talking about books they'd enjoyed, with the head trying to get them to say why they'd enjoyed them. A boy had brought a postcard from Disney World from his auntie, and went up to find Florida on a map of the world, with a bit of help from a teacher. At the end the children wandered out in class groups, chatting among themselves, very relaxed, very self-controlled.

Back in her office, Shirley Iwanyskyj threw away a leaflet advertising *A Head Teacher's Ideas Book for Unexpected Lessons* with some distaste, and said that the important thing they'd started with, when the school opened 10 years ago, was the idea of persistence. "A lot of people don't really believe that young children can stick at a task and see it through."

The school takes 150 four to eight-year-olds. Most parents are very supportive of their children and the school, which goes to a lot of trouble to explain its practice. Parents work in a variety of jobs - some in the power station in the village, some in Doncaster - and many suffered from the knock-on effects of the miners' strike.

There are five full-time teachers and one part-timer, plus the head. They work very closely together, visit other schools together whenever it's possible, and share in-service. "It's important that everyone's committed to the same way of thinking," said a teacher.

Ideally, the teachers would like each class to have a two-year age range: "They see older children doing things and learn so much from each other." But this year unbalanced age groups were the exception.



Stunningly good needlecraft and model making: children describe their work to head Shirley Iwanyskyj.

have led to one separate class of three years.

Often, two classes covering the whole age range work together on a topic, going on a visit and then coming back to work at their own levels.

When the school started, the majority of the staff came from Sir Alec Clegg's West Riding, where child-centred primary practice was nurtured and flourished. Shirley Iwanyskyj learnt her trade at the Swinton Day Training College, under a tutor, Marjorie Walker, who "could explain things simply, in a few words". "I wouldn't know any other way to teach," she says now.

The school is organized so that from the beginning the children are taught to take responsibility for their own work, without wasting the teachers' time by asking for help on things they can do for themselves.

"Teachers should be unobtrusive: If you have trouble identifying who is the teacher, she's doing a good job: if she's there visibly directing everything, something is wrong," said Shirley Iwanyskyj.

Teachers set out materials such as fabrics and wools and paints in similar ways right through the school, so that children know exactly where to find things, and where to put them back. Some resources such as maths and science equipment are stored centrally and accessibly, so that children from the school's six classes can get what they need.

The children seem to learn very rapidly to take a very brief and general idea from a teacher - look at the car park; make a pattern starting from the middle and working out - and to end with some quite complex mathematics and survey work and art that they've planned and executed with minimal encouragement.

If they need an adult, they wait patiently, putting up their hand from time to time, and getting on as best they can: "We train them not to be too demanding, not to worry about waiting."

The result is that the teachers (and other adults

- the school is full of parent helpers) can spend fairly long sessions with individuals and groups. The four-year-olds start writing by dictating not brief sentences, but long passages to the teacher, and then being shown how to trace over the writing.

"When they're doing different things, and not all writing at once, you can settle down with them and give them plenty of time," said Eileen Garfield, who teaches one of the three reception groups of four to sixes.

Four-year-olds are helped to adjust to school with plenty of movement games and imaginative play, and all the younger children are offered plenty of chances time to go out and play with bricks or in the home corner throughout the day.

They seem to make very rapid progress at reading and writing, and become very competent early on at things like mixing paints to gain subtle and varied effects. This year Doncaster's standardized screening tests for six-year-olds showed up only two children who required special remedial help.

Work is based as much as possible on direct first-hand experience - whether it's visits to local museums, or the canal, or the village, or the school kitchen.

The children seem to spend a very long time on one activity, whether it's writing, or everyday maths, or playing with a plastic train, or painting a picture of the school, working out successful techniques for dealing with the pebbledash and getting the right amount of pink in the asphalt.

"As the school developed, we saw less and less reason to chop children off when they were busy with a project," said Shirley Iwanyskyj. "They know when they've reached absorption point."

A lot of surprisingly sophisticated work results, often using very simple materials, pencils for drawing, or junk boxes and scraps of fabric for modelling, or bits of rod and card which end up as working battery-driven vehicles.

But the school doesn't flaunt the quality. Much

This report ends the first stage of our series investigating the ingredients of good primary practice.

The first three schools profiled were nominated by people who visit large numbers of schools. We hope readers will now widen the discussion by either:

- Recommending a school that corresponds to their idea of good practice
- Sending us their thoughts on key factors that make for good practice.

Suggestions and articles (maximum 700 words) should be sent to The Features Editor, The TES, Priory House, St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX as soon as possible.

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مركز في الأصل

Belles letters

Marion Richardson's pioneering work on handwriting was published fifty years ago and is still in print. Clare Bevan traces her life and work.



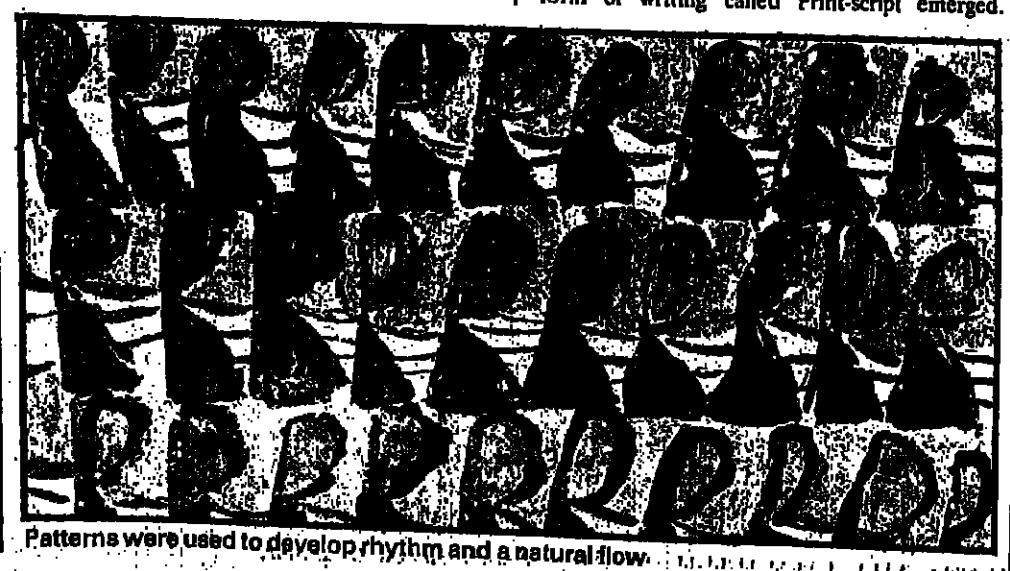
Marion Richardson

Marion Richardson was an extraordinarily successful teacher whose theories about the teaching of art and handwriting were regarded as revolutionary during the 1920s and 1930s. She helped the free art teaching from the old-fashioned method of slavish copying of objects, and encouraged children to visualize things for themselves.

The contribution she made to the teaching of handwriting this century, however, has been much more significant, but often underestimated. A tribute to her success is that *Writing & Writing Patterns*, originally published in 1935, is still in print 50 years later and still used in some schools today. Although regarded by some as rather out-dated, many of Marion Richardson's ideas are still valid and recent writing schemes owe a great debt to her.

Despite a number of references to her in the educational press during the height of her career, very little is now known about Marion Richardson and her ideas apart from material in her own published works: the *Dudley Writing Cards* (1928); *Writing & Writing Patterns* (1935); and *Art & the Child* (1948). The latter is a semi-autobiographical account of her teaching, written during a long and painful illness towards the end of her life. Although her personality shines through, it really does not do justice to her and does not explain her theories adequately.

Marion Richardson was born on October 9 1892 in Ashford, Kent, and later moved to Oxford, where her education continued at Millham Ford School until 1908. During her childhood she demonstrated a special gift with words and a powerful imagination. She was very talented at drawing and won a scholarship to Birmingham School of Art to train as an art teacher.



Patterns were used to develop rhythm and a natural flow

At the end of her training in 1912 she was appointed art mistress at Dudley Girls' High School. There she gave the girls "word pictures" - verbal descriptions of scenes to paint - to stimulate their imagination. As a result, the pictures they produced had an original new quality. She pursued the idea, sometimes using objects as a stimulus, but lighting them unusually or hiding their forms under a cloth.

The final development was the "mind picture" - a child's own experience. Children were encouraged to sit with their eyes shut waiting for visions to come into their minds and then paint what they saw. This use of mental imagery was a very daring departure from accepted standards of art teaching.

Part of Marion Richardson's responsibility at Dudley was to teach "writing", which meant calligraphy rather than ordinary handwriting, but she soon became dismayed to find that the children saved it for their "Sunday-best" efforts only.

At that time there were conflicting ideas about how handwriting should be taught. Teachers normally favoured the use of old-fashioned Victorian copy-books of copperplate writing, or simplified, more upright, less condensed forms such as "Civil Service Script", both of which involved children in the exact copying of models. The wording of these models usually included lists of moral sayings which must have made the task of copying not only monotonous, but also rather dull and uninteresting.

Young children also found the writing physically difficult to master. Marion Richardson blamed the writing instrument - a flexible pointed steel nib - which required great muscular control to produce the loops and the thick and thin strokes.

The problem was, however, beginning to be recognized by a few at the time, and people were looking for a more suitable form of handwriting to teach in schools. In 1906, the London County Council asked Edward Johnston, who had revived interest in the art of calligraphy at the beginning of this century, to review the existing copy-books with a view to recommending a particular method. He analysed 30 or so books, but could not recommend any of them. Instead, he put forward his own suggestions. He recommended that children should be taught the skeletal forms of letters first, followed by the use of a broad square-nibbed pen, a tool that makes definite thick and thin strokes and graduated curves according to the direction in which it is moved. He put emphasis on the creation of writing that was not only readable, but had beauty and form, and he argued that the models children should be given should be actual writing (or facsimiles of actual writing) made with the same tool intended for use by the children. Above all, he felt that writing lessons should be interesting to make the task a pleasure rather than a burden.

Unfortunately, Johnston's recommendations were misunderstood; emphasis was put by others on his idea of skeletal forms of letters, and a new form of writing called Print-script emerged.

Before and after: the influence of the Richardson style after two months work and (above) the Dudley Work Cards

Print-script was on trial in schools from 1913 and the results were published in the board of education pamphlet *Print-script* in 1922. The letterforms were grossly simplified into elements consisting entirely of straight lines, circles and portions of circles. All loops were avoided and the writing was unjoined, although the authors of the pamphlet suggested a wholly unsatisfactory method of developing a cursive hand later. The promoters of Print-script claimed that it was closer to the letterforms found in children's reading books and was therefore easier to learn.

Marion Richardson felt that Print-script produced a staccato movement, and that it did not lead naturally to a cursive hand and lacked character. She agreed with Johnston's principles and decided to look back, as he had done, to writing of the past; in particular she turned to the writing of the Italian Renaissance scholars, before copperplate writing evolved. Instead of trying to write exactly like them, she collected from these examples the essential material to create an ordinary everyday handwriting.

Many of her ideas came from Johnston's book *Writing & Illuminating & Lettering* (1906). By 1918 her method was well established and she delivered her first public lecture on the subject. The improvement she made to children's handwriting was so admired that it was suggested she should publish her scheme. She began work on the drafts for this around 1924 or 1925 and contacted Johnston personally for advice and criticism. She was meticulous not only with the letterforms themselves, but also in her choice of words, so that certain writing movements and combinations of letters could be practised.

Her scheme was finally ready for publication as the *Dudley Writing Cards* in 1928. These were graded in ten sets and were intended for children aged seven years and over using a broad square-nibbed pen and ink. First of all, children were encouraged to trace the cards freely without having to think about the actual letters; they would therefore concentrate of holding the pen correctly and building up rhythm. Once their confidence had been built up, they were encouraged to practice on unlined paper. Marion Richardson felt that lined paper constrained children's writing and if a child was not taught to depend on lines work would be set out with freedom and a feeling for the page as a whole.

The content of her writing cards reflected her great interest in ballet, music, poetry, English literature and religion, and were far removed from the dull Victorian models they replaced. The reaction to the scheme was favourable and in March 1930 Marion Richardson was asked to run a series of handwriting lectures for teachers at the London Day Training College; they proved to be so successful, and the response to them so overwhelming, that they had to be repeated.

In September 1930, Marion Richardson was appointed as Inspector of Schools with the London County Council and was able to see her methods of both art and handwriting tried out in large numbers of schools. It was not long, however, before she began to have doubts about the suitability of her writing scheme. The use of such a broad pen made it more of a scribe's hand than ordinary handwriting, and it was not suitable for children under the age of seven.

At this time she became very interested in the pre-writing scribbles of very young children and made a most important discovery. She noticed recurring natural rhythms in these scribbles, and realised that they were the equivalent of pre-writing in pre-speech. Marion Richardson decided to re-write her scheme to incorporate these rhythms so that writing could be a natural progression from early scribbles. In the rhythms she noticed six basic patterns from which the letters of the alphabet could be formed. If a child was encouraged to practise these patterns, she felt that the formation of the letters would come naturally later on.

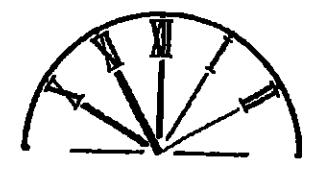
She experimented with other writing tools, such as chalks, thick soft pencils and crayons, and found that these were more suitable for young children to control. She would encourage them to work on large sheets of paper, the aim of this being to develop rhythm and swing. Afterwards the intervening spaces in the patterns would be filled in to produce colourful designs, which not only made the exercise enjoyable but also developed a child's ability to think ahead - to watch for the shapes to appear in front of them.

The use of the patterns would continue once the letters of the alphabet had been mastered, so as to maintain a natural flowing movement. When the children became used to pencil, they would



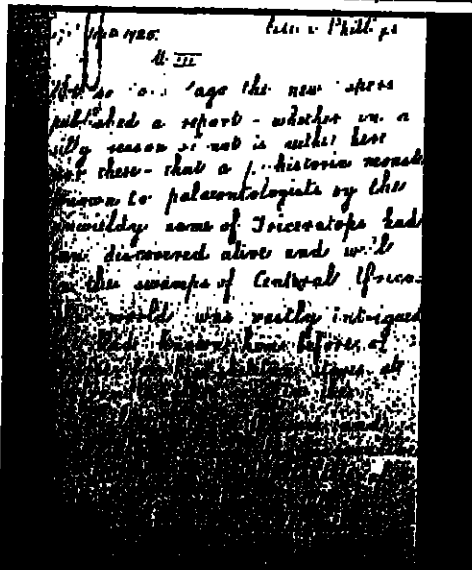
Writing lesson in 1935

Dudley Writing Cards



IN 30 SETS BY
MARION RICHARDSON
OF THE LONDON DAY TRAINING COLLEGE
AND THE DUDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

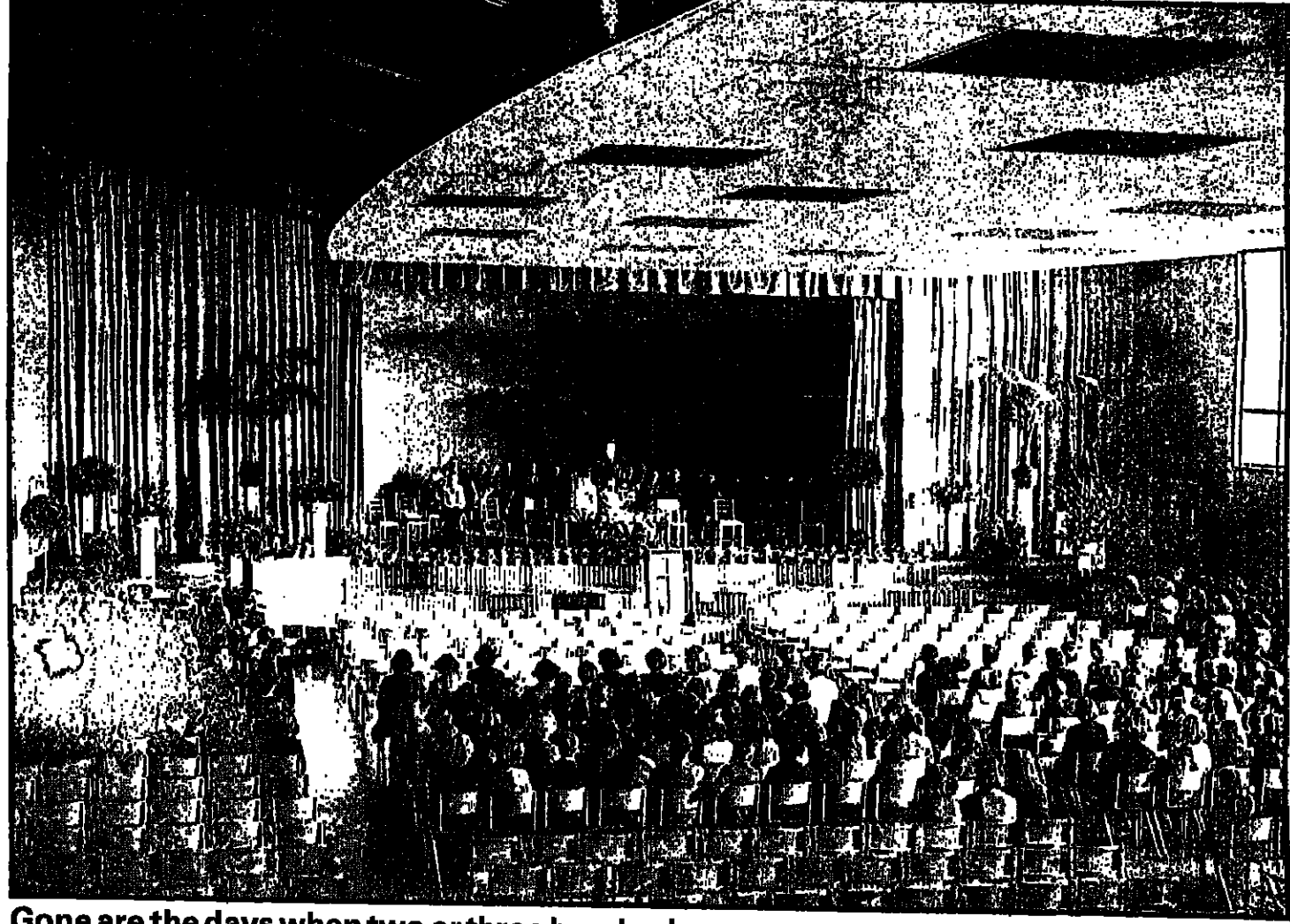
LONDON: G. BELL AND SONS, LTD.
YORK HOUSE, PORTLAND STREET, W.1
GLASGOW: W. & E. HOLMES



O Q C S G
n m h k p
Son Daughter
Bowling hoops
George v 1910
Ring a Ring o' Roses
Paddle your own canoe

Nov 12th Um C. Phillips 12
For the beauty of the earth
For the beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
Gracious God to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise
For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Four months at the High School

One for hall



Gone are the days when two or three hundred or more could gather together, John Sturt complains.

The point was made to me recently that the most important consequences of social and economic change are those which are unforeseen and unintentional, and I keep finding proof of the truth of the aphorism. In a profession such as ours, which seems to be more than most at the whim of fashion, the consequences can be severe indeed.

It has been particularly so in the matter of educational buildings. Cost has been the greatest enemy. Have you noticed how classrooms have shrunk over the past 20 years? Children apparently no longer need the area they once did, nor need that area to be as clean as was once thought desirable. My school has been remeasured twice in the last decade and each time found to be smaller than previously thought, and in need of less cleaning hours. But fashion has sided and abetted some of the scurvier developments, and halls, alas, are sadly out of fashion.

I well remember in the late Sixties hearing the arguments deployed. "The least used area of a school", the advisers told us. "Work out the heat loss factors", the administrators warned. "Think of the savings to be made in fuel bills", contributed the architects. And we, who had never run a school without a hall, had not the experience to contradict them. We certainly do now.

Of course the 1970s provided exactly the climate of opinion in which such arguments could flourish and be heeded. There was a general reaction against formality in education, and school halls were above all associated with formal occasions. That was the decade when many schools gave up their speech days and prize givings, and those were the years when many schools outgrew their halls as places in which the whole school could foregather. They were also the times when, whatever the law theoretically insisted on, assemblies as communal acts of worship lost much ground.

Those were the days, as well, when we were all told to think flexibly about teaching methods and groupings. Halls were stigmatized as inflexible and old hat. The producers of school plays began to want to experiment in the round. Drama teachers came along to whom proscenium arches were dirty words. Theatre workshops became all the rage, and drama areas into which a few spectators could also be squeezed were built into new school designs, and nasty expensive school halls were left out.

There was an apparently clinching argument. After all, we were told, with schools of 1,200 and 1,500 you cannot possibly expect a hall to hold the entire school, and what is the use of a hall that holds only half of it? I now know that even a hall

of 1,500 souls before falling rolls eased the space problem trailed from every corner of a spread and split site to hear me on some ferocious or uplifting tack. It cost an hour of teaching time for a 15-minute assembly by the time we got them back to lessons, but just now and then it seemed worth it. When we started these monster assemblies I wore academic dress which seemed wildly uncharacteristic of me, but I sought to underline occasionally that we were in part an academic establishment. At first the children were amazed, but they learned that what they had at first taken to be my batman's outfit actually had another meaning. Once or twice since then it has seemed to me inappropriate to wear the gown and hood. When that has happened the children have felt, and said, that such occasions have not been proper assemblies. What they have also meant but been too polite to spell out is that I have not been bothered to be properly dressed.

Even if collecting the whole school together must remain a relatively rare luxury, the capacity to address, muse, inform or frighten 500 or 600 is very valuable. There will always be occasions when half the school needs haranguing, when the lower school needs a riot act read, or when congratulations or warnings are in order. The horizontal pastoral system is very effective and widely favoured, but it has within it the flaws of schism and isolationism unless one can from time to time bring two or three year groups together.

We should also reconsider the whole question of school performances, whether they be plays, concerts or other kinds of shows. No doubt drama workshops are better places to work in for A level theatre studies or O level drama practicals, but most shows these days must be expected to make a decent financial return if not a profit out of their audiences. How many nights do you have to run to break even if your drama workshop holds 130 when you really pack them in?

And what do you do about those visiting theatre companies whose fees must be paid from the takings? And all those good intentions about



Assemblies, and the buildings to hold them in, are becoming things of the past

making your school a cultural centre for the community? And what about parents' evenings, options meetings, the PTA dance? Occasions serious and occasions joyous all need a hall.

How are you going to give children the experience of speaking and performing in public when you have no public space? What about the carol service, the art exhibition, the Easter party for the old age pensioners, the film you want to screen, the fashion show, the staff pantomime?

It is not that we now just turn our backs on the ideals of the Seventies. We value flexibility still, we value adventurous teaching methods, we applaud the use of different groupings and different approaches to the use of space. Many of us have realized, paradoxically, how we might use a hall by the experience of not having one. Many groups of different sizes can work successfully in them. Shows of work need this sort of space, so do end of term celebrations, evenings for new and potential parents, visiting children from our primary schools.

And halls can make money. They are one facility very frequently in demand by the community for evening use. A good hall will attract a queue of people wanting to hire it for cash; and that at least is an argument which might appeal to those who order our affairs and manipulate the educational purse strings today.

John Sturt is head of Knowles Hill School, Newton Abbot, Devonshire.

June 26 1885 Winifred Lord 1885
Now it came to pass on a certain day that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them. Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake: and they were filled with water, and were on jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, Master we perish. Then he arose and rebuked the wind, and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith?

More personal styles were encouraged later

change over to pen and ink using a medium square-nibbed pen (which was closer to the children's first writing tool) instead of the broad nib advocated in the Dudley Writing, which had tended to slow children down.

Marion Richardson's five writing books were never intended to be used as a strict model in the way Victorian copy-books were used. Unfortunately, some teachers have done just this and missed the whole point of her method. Her writing has been criticized for its over-roundness and immaturity of style. But she did not intend children to stick rigidly to copying her style - in fact, once they had mastered the basic techniques, she encouraged them to develop a personal style; and at a later stage, at the age of 11 or 12, she suggested that they might like to try italic writing (see picture above).

The emphasis of her method, therefore, is the pattern-making, and this idea has been incorporated into many of the more popular italic writing schemes now available. The advantage of Marion Richardson's method is that it teaches the same basic writing from the start, thus avoiding the difficult change-over normally experienced when changing from Print-script to another form of writing; and unlike italic writing it is less likely to break down into a series of illegible zigzags at speed.

The revised scheme was published in its present form in 1935 and was very successful, being taken up widely throughout the country and overseas. Marion Richardson became inundated with requests to give lectures on handwriting and she soon found that she had a very busy schedule. Apart from her duties as an Inspector, she was also organizing exhibitions of children's art, the biggest of which was the second LCC Exhibition of Children's Drawings held at County Hall in July 1938.

Unfortunately, at the peak of her career her health began to suffer; she had to give up work in 1940 and in January 1942 she retired through ill-health. With her career and health in ruins, she started to write *Art & the Child*. This was to be the book she had always intended to write about children's art, but in view of her state of mind, confused by her illness, it was not what she had in mind some 20 years earlier, and there is evidence to suggest that it might have been a more comprehensive book had she lived longer. Nevertheless, her family and friends had it published after her death in 1946, despite its unfinished state, and they illustrated it with a selection of children's paintings from the Memorial Exhibition of her work staged in the autumn of 1947 at the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Why did Marion Richardson become such a prominent figure during her lifetime? She was first and foremost a teacher of exceptional ability with personal qualities that endeared her to many. But she was also prepared to share her ideas with others; to put them to the test and show that they really worked.

The final paragraph of an obituary Dr P B Ballard wrote for *The TES* of November 30 1946 provides a fitting comment, as it did then. He wrote: "What are the principles and methods for which Miss Richardson stood? She herself has set them forth in a book which it is hoped to publish in the near future. Suffice it to say here that they are revolutionary in the sense that they reverse the procedure of Victorian and Edwardian days. To see Miss Richardson at work with children was a delight. Little ones and big, all loved her. Here at last, they felt, was someone who understood them, someone who helped them to do the jolly things they always wanted to do. In fact I have no hesitation in saying that as a teacher of arts and crafts, Miss Richardson was a genius".

Clare Bevan is a graphic designer. This article is based on her dissertation for a degree in Typography and Graphic Communication at Reading University completed in 1982.

BOOKS

Review

English literature, as an academic subject, on the brink of fundamental change? Visiting a university English department in recent years, you might well have thought so. When Paul de Man gave a lecture entitled "The Crisis of Contemporary Criticism" in 1967, a large part of his audience must have wondered what he was talking about. The old doubts which had dogged the foundation of the subject seemed long since buried. The new doubts seemed foreign, marginal and obscure.

Eighteen years later, crises are as plentiful as blackberries. From Peter Widdowson's "The Crisis in English Studies" to William Cain's "The Crisis in Criticism", the word confronts the worried academic on every side. Even the cautious Christopher Butler begins his survey of the present state of the art with the observation that "Many teachers believe the subject has entered into a state of crisis".

Butler means university teachers, of course, but if this really is an emergency it's not going to stop there. Will A level candidates in five years time be expected to practise Poetics rather than Interpretation? Will their teachers, accordingly, be required to talk with confidence of "registers of discourse", "tropes" or "narrative syntax" rather than of characterization, theme or patterns of imagery? Will the same candidates, 10 years hence, be invited to "deconstruct" the texts which they have studied, and to master (for S level perhaps) such concepts as "supplement", "trace", "aporia" and "différance"?

These are urgent practical questions rather than airy speculations and they lend a peculiar interest to the books on critical theory which have recently been pouring from the presses. Their concerns seem at first sight far removed from the mundane reality of a fifth year's struggle with *Othello*. In fact, as university teachers of English have discovered, they bear even more insistently upon the daily business of what we do with literature.

The possibility of crisis was, of course, always present for a subject with origins as mixed and murky as those of English. In the early 18th century vernacular texts were studied, as they still are in the early years of secondary school, for rhetorical purposes. Pupils read good examples of writing, that is, in order to learn how to write well themselves. A species of imitative apprenticeship implanted the higher literacy.

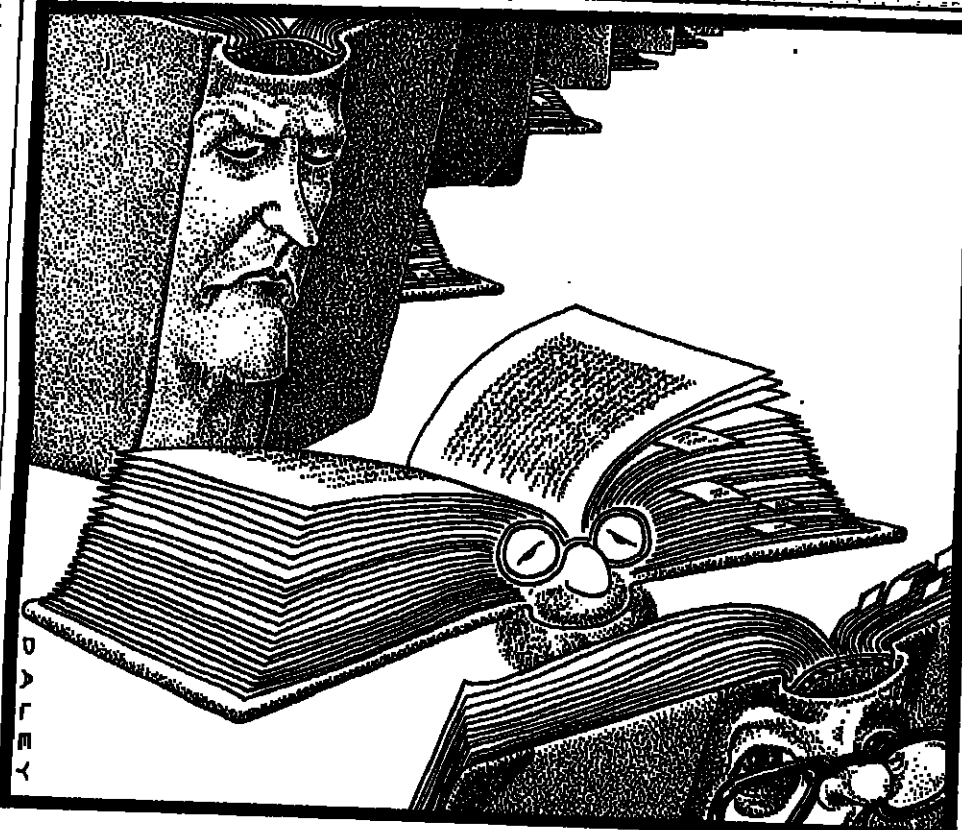
By the 1760s, however, another and more complex purpose was added. An acquaintance with the best authors began to be seen as a mark of good breeding. Ancient Greek and Latin writing had itself become a matter of predominantly "literary" interest. Those locked out, by religion, sex or class, from this classical education could seek an equivalent experience in English books and form their taste on Shakespeare or on Milton.

Neither of these motives would quite suffice when, in the 1820s and 1830s, the first university departments of English literature were founded, as D J Palmer has argued, the rhetorical tradition gave way to the teaching of literature as cultural history while the training of taste was dignified into a late-Romantic claim for the moral power of great writing. John Morley summed up the position, judiciously and attractively, in 1887: "Literature consists of all the books — and they are not so many — where moral truth and human passion are touched with a certain largeness, sanity, and attraction of form."

Literature is about human behaviour (in Arnold's words it is a "criticism of life"). But unlike either philosophy or psychology it merely "touches" this topic, albeit largely and sanely, and does so with a distinctive formal grace.

The problem, then as now, was not merely how teachers of literature could persuade themselves that the study of pleasurable vernacular texts made academic sense. It was also how they could persuade other people — their clients or the taxpayer — that what they did was worth money. Cultural history combined the traditional discipline of history with a persuasive appeal to national pride ("Our literary tradition, like our football team, is better than the next one"). The moral force of literature was both individually improving and socially emollient.

Neither of these arguments was flawless — as opponents of the growth of English Studies have always been quick to point out. None the less, they served for more than a century as effective and convenient foundations. Today many academic critics wish to kick away both props. A Marxist critic like Terry Eagleton both deplores the stress on the moral lives of individual characters which distracts us, in *Middlemarch* for example, from the analysis of "objective social relations" and takes a satirical pleasure in the fact that the "minor-linguist" poet Sir Henry Newbolt was an author of the influential 1921 Government



Why teach Eng Lit?

The past few years have seen a furious academic argument about the purpose of literary criticism. NICHOLAS SHRIMPTON looks back to the distant origins of the debate, and forward to its consequences both for professionals and for those who have to study literature in schools

Report on the teaching of English. Christopher Butler observes that the chief effect of contemporary deconstructive interpretation is that, "We cease to see literature as interesting for its reinforcement of social or moral attitudes in a historical context, but as problematic in relation to them".

One interesting consequence of this shift to problematics is to drive the argument for the public support of English Studies from patriotism and propriety onto the admirable but less immediately popular ground of John Stuart Mill's libertarianism ("If opponents of all important truths do not exist, it is indispensable to imagine them"). But it would be a mistake to assume that cultural history and moral enlightenment, simply conceived, were in themselves a sufficient summation of the orthodoxy which the present crisis throws into doubt. If there is a manifesto of conventional critical practice in 20th century Britain, it is I A Richards's *Principles of Literary Criticism* — and it is a more subtle statement than accounts of the orthodoxy as "expressive realism".

"Literature had been regarded as a message without a code for so long that it became necessary to regard it momentarily as a code without a message"

(a real author tells us things about the real world) might suggest.

Criticism, Richards insists, must offer two things: an account of communication (how texts speak to us) and an account of value (why we should bother to listen). The great strength of his book in this utilitarian century is that it offers a subtly utilitarian account of the value of literature. What literary works give us is not simply pleasure (pinball can give us that, without need of academics; tragedy does not give it) but a peculiarly complex form of the neurological process which Richards calls "the exercise of impulses and the satisfaction of their appetencies".

Poems, in other words, are experiences in the nervous system not different in kind from other experiences but more satisfying because they are more concentrated and more highly organized. The scientific use of language strives to give us a "clear and impartial awareness of the nature of the world in which we live". Poetry is different.

There is a "suppressed conditional clause implicit in it" and it uses language less for the sake of reference than for the attitudes and emotions which ensue, thereby "fostering the development of attitudes which will enable us to live in that world finely". Criticism, for Richards, is ultimately "the endeavour to discriminate between experiences and to evaluate them". But this discrimination can be carried out by concentrating simply on the verbal detail of literary texts.

What this means is that the *dulce* (or formal qualities) and *utile* (or instrumental effects) of literature are subtly combined. As a consequence the crudely patriotic and overtly moralistic extremes of the traditional arguments for English Studies are subduced into a procedure which, without losing its moral or cultural value, seems dispassionately professional in its concentration on the formal characteristics of poems, plays and novels.

Long before the advent of the current crisis, doubts were being cast upon this programme.

weariness with the procedures of post-Richards criticism: constant practical criticism of "Richards's caveat about the 'suppressed conditional clause', which meant that texts were to be valued not for their rightness or wrongness for the seriousness with which they entertain their ethical hypotheses, those readings degenerated all too readily into simple moral pronouncements — partisan statements about the not endorsed by the prestige of the 'highly organized' authorial sensibility to which they were retrospectively attributed.

When the crucial challenge came, it came first and foremost of an abandonment of interest in such "themes" or meanings. As the French structuralist Gerard Genette observed in 1964 "Literature had been regarded as a message without a code for so long that it became necessary to regard it momentarily as a code without a message". To put this in simpler terms, structuralism addressed itself to the question of how texts mean, rather than what they mean.

The answer it gave was, of course, rather different from Richards's "account of communication". Structuralism is a technique for analysing cultural artefacts (languages, societies, literatures) based on the procedures of the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure. Language, Saussure pointed out, is a cultural product rather than a natural fact and can be studied either historically or "synchronically" — that is as a system operating at a particular moment of time. At the time it consists both of a mass of individual speech acts and of *langue*: "a social product of the faculty of speech and a collection of necessary conventions that have been adopted by a social body, permit individuals to exercise that faculty".

"Convention" is the crucial word. Neither coherent ideas nor coherent sounds, Saussure insists, pre-date language. Instead, the undifferentiated flow of thought and the undifferentiated flow of sounds are each divided into slices which are arbitrarily associated with each other. An arbitrary combination of sound ("signifier") and concept ("signified") is a sign. The fact that their combination is arbitrary reminds us that language is a social construct — there are no intrinsic grounds on which an individual could link them. And each component of the sign is established only by its conventionally established difference from all other sounds and concepts.

What has all this to do with literature? The first answer is that literature is itself, of course, a cultural artefact and Saussure's technique appears to offer a scientific way of analysing it. If the linguist can establish the grammar (or "necessary conventions") of a language, then the literary scholar can establish the grammar (or "Poetics") of a literature. Aristotle did as much, after all, for tragic drama in the third century BC. Northrop Frye was systematizing the signs called genres a decade before the advent of the structuralist "crisis".

If nothing else, in fact, structuralism has supplied a valuable addition to the analytical vocabulary with which we approach the communicative procedures of literature, especially narrative fiction. Tzvetan Todorov's *Introduction to Poetics* is the crispest account of these signs. Todorov includes the familiar concept of the spatial order of texts (symmetry, antithesis, parallelism) and salutes the Anglo-American contribution to the discussion of narrative point of view. But he adds several new categories, including "registers of discourse", modes of presentation and the handling of time.

What remains, in Todorov's eyes, a problem is what he calls the semantic aspect of the text: the question of how and what it means. And this points us to a more disturbing implication of structuralist criticism. Not all structuralists share Genette's sense that the turning from message to code is a temporary one. Many, taking as their sacred text Saussure's declaration that "in language there are only differences without positive terms", argue that code is the only thing we can ever usefully talk about.

For such thinkers the conventional, or social, quality of language implies that instead of writing language we are written by it. Meaning arises, that is, not from an individual's reference to real features of an outside world, but from differences within a socially formed linguistic structure. Talking about the characters or moral dilemmas or themes of a literary text as if they were even provisionally real is therefore futile and self-deceiving. We must practise poetics rather than hermeneutics (or interpretation), discussing how such meanings are generated rather than what some absolute sense they are.

Steven Connor's recent "rereading" of Dickens offers a conveniently accessible demonstration of such structuralist procedures. *Dombey and Son*, traditionally seen as a novel about egoism and

ultrism, or commercial and personal conceptions of the family, is analysed instead as an interplay between four "signifying positions" summarised as closure, openness, not-closure and not-openness.

Hand in hand with this rejection of a reference beyond language to "real life" goes the so-called "death of the author". The New Critics of the 1940s had already cast doubt on appeals to authorial intention. Structuralists reinforced this tendency with their insistence, in the words of Roland Barthes, that "it is the language which speaks, not the author". Reference to an author ("Shakespeare can't have meant that!") artificially limits the multiple meanings which the reader can generate from the (socially constituted) language of the text.

These sceptical implications of structuralism were profoundly deepened in 1967 when the French philosopher Jacques Derrida ushered in the varied movement known as post-structuralism. Derrida questioned the scientific claims of structuralism, pointing out that its analytical language is subject to the same fatal constraints as the literary language it describes. (In this context, indeed, post-structuralism accords literature a unique importance, as the only mode of discourse which has the honesty to acknowledge the artificiality of language.) And where structuralism had removed the author and privileged the reader, Derrida's attack on the notion of "presence" cast doubt on the very concept of the reading self.

The sceptical implications of structuralism, in other words, are enormously increased. Texts are no longer neat interplays of signifying practices but, rather, endless chains of "differences" (no element, in Derrida's words, "can function as a sign without referring to another element which itself is not simply present"). Language makes meaning by such differences but also endlessly "defers" it. The American critic Barbara Johnson sees the business of the post-structuralist reader as "the careful teasing out of warring forces of signification within the text itself". The process is called deconstruction. It identifies contradiction rather than "unity" in works of literature and thereby suggests the ways in which statements which we take to be lucid references to a real outside world are in fact products of the differential processes of language.

The critics who offered the warmest welcome

to such ideas in England were, not surprisingly, Marxists. The traditional belief that literature is directly referential left them with no author of whose references they could wholeheartedly approve before (late) William Morris. And I A Richards's solution of this problem by pointing instead to "attitudes" and formal elegancies seemed to involve teaching, if not the actual views, at least the taste or sensibility of the bourgeoisie.

But a Marxist welcome for the new thought has, in the end, to be a qualified one — as Terry Eagleton's *Literary Theory: An Introduction*, perhaps unhelpfully shows. For 143 pages Eagleton gallops enthusiastically through the theories which have recently challenged orthodox institutional practice. Then, on page 144, he suddenly refuses a fence. For the radical scepticism of post-structuralism casts doubt not merely on the bourgeois assumptions "inscribed" in our

"For us the discourse works: the taste established by three centuries of bourgeois individualism is worth transmitting"

language but also on such Marxist ones as class, surplus value and social justice.

Adopting a tactic also used by many non-Marxist opponents of post-structuralist theory, he in effect accuses it of the "higher redefinition", that is of setting absurdly high standards for the referentiality of language and then condemning it wholesale when it fails to meet them. Eagleton welcomes the new theory on the cautious basis of "My enemy's enemy is my friend" and salvages from it a carefully end-stopped version of deconstructive technique whereby the warring forces of signification within the language of the text enact the contradictions of an external reality called capitalist society.

If this seems to take us a fair way back towards the point at which we began, Christopher Butler's more rigorously argued *Interpretation, Deconstruction and Ideology* does the same thing in the name of liberal pluralism. Butler's argument rests upon a distinction between language (as it appears to Saussure and Derrida) in the airless, laboratory world of linguistic analysis and lan-

guage (as it appears to Wittgenstein and Grice) in use. In practice, constrained from endless "difference" by context and the needs of speakers, it is efficaciously though not ideally mimetic. "Contextual relativism" is the stance for which Butler argues. A simple mimetic theory of language needs modifying because it runs the risk of "ideological complacency". On the other hand, post-structuralism's ideological sophistication — its demonstration of the extent to which our norms are social rather than natural — need not drive us into the infinite regress of Derridean scepticism. A text's meanings are determined by the context from which it derives, though our sense of that context is relative (or ideological) rather than absolute.

Critics need to be aware of the fact that their choice of an appropriate context of interpretation is affected by their extra-literary views, and to recognize the possibility (within limits) of alternative choices. Butler declares his views as "radical-liberal". Other contemporary critics might declare theirs as Marxist, Gnostic, Feminist or Freudian. None of them — least of all those working in the orthodox liberal tradition — can assume that their choice of determining context is simply "natural".

Though literary criticism will never be quite the same again after the structuralist crisis, in other words, it will not be entirely different either. The cosy amalgamation of *dulce* with *utile*, which assumed formal grace and moral value to be the same thing and based them both on an unquestioned intellectual consensus about meaning and value, has gone, for ever. Instead we will need to talk about the two things separately (as some critics always have done) and to be open about the grounds on which we base our judgements of the latter. The individualistic stress on character in the Victorian novel, for example, will be seen by Marxist critics as ideological and wrong. Non-Marxist critics (like myself) will see the same thing as ideological but right. To put it another

way, one man's ideology is another man's nature, and vice-versa, unless you are a Derridean and believe that we cannot talk about nature at all.

Meanwhile we are left, in my view, teaching reading skills, cultural history and taste — albeit more self-consciously than before. The Marxist will see the first of these in its orthodox form as a "discourse" which happens to be authorized by the powers-that-be in capitalist society, the second and third as narrowly bourgeois conventions which reflect underlying economic inequalities. Since intrinsic definitions of what makes one literary text better than another, or even of what makes a text literature at all, are hard to come by, there is no simple refutation of such claims. But those who, like me, respond to democratic capitalism with judicious enthusiasm rather than horrified distaste will not be unduly troubled by them. For us the discourse works: the taste established by three centuries of bourgeois individualism is worth transmitting.

Taste shifts, of course, as traditions grow, and the analytical language of the critical discourse changes and develops. The quasi-religious claims for the moral power of literary education are hard to sustain. Patriotic arguments for it, though not meaningless, are unfashionable and coherent theoretical justifications of literary criticism as an academic discipline are as far away as ever. Somehow we still seem to be in business. Those of us who take a serious view of mental play will not be surprised by this unlikely persistence. Even as a humble contribution to that indispensable human resource, the entertainment industry, the transmission (and questioning) of taste by teachers of English has its importance. Crisis there may be. But, like Sisyphus's circus and for some of the same reasons, society I suspect "muth have uht".

Interpretation, Deconstruction and Ideology. By Christopher Butler. Oxford University Press £13.50 and £5.95.

The Crisis in Criticism. By William Cain. Johns Hopkins University Press £24.50.

Charles Dickens. By Steven Connor. Basil Blackwell £12.50 and £3.95.

Literary Theory: An Introduction. By Terry Eagleton. Basil Blackwell £17.50 and £4.95.

Principles of Literary Criticism. By I A Richards. Routledge and Kegan Paul £4.95.

Introduction to Poetics. By Tzvetan Todorov. Harvester Press £14.95 and £2.95.

Out of the lab

Steve Grant on Jerzy Grotowski

The Theatre of Grotowski. By Jennifer Kumiega. Methuen £19.95. 0 413 46640 X

Of the many international figures dotted across the avant-garde theatre scene of the late-Sixties and Seventies, Jerzy Grotowski is perhaps the most enigmatic and representative. When he moved to Wrocław in 1965, he was bound on a course of training, experiment and performance which was to have an influence as short-lived as it was disproportionate to the exposure that his work actually received in the West.

Grotowski's Poor Theatre (a theatre which does away with everything but the essential, sacred relationship between performer and audience), and his training methods (to produce a psychologically and physically attuned actor capable of breaking down the last barrier of secularized society, personal privacy), were to influence the work of Peter Brook and Charles Marowitz, Joseph Chaikin and Julian Beck, as well as countless impressionable students and grinning no-talents on the fringes of the European and American avant-garde. Grotowski's was a theatre of total commitment, of bare essentials and thus highly fashionable in the days of experiment and excess.

He was himself a product of his influences, both acknowledged and unconscious, from Stanislawski to Coupeau, Meyerhold to Okhlopkov. Like all great theorists of the theatre, his ideology and practice were often at odds, his assumptions and claims often monstrously wide of the mark. And yet he wrote more vigorously than any contemporary about the art of the actor and in productions such as *Akropolis* and his masterpiece *Apocalypsis Cum Furore* (a profound influence at the 1968 Edinburgh Festival) his destruction of traditional and sanctified theatrical subjects were to be re-echoed in later works by Bond, Peter Brook, Marowitz in *Hamlet* and the Living Theatre, always Grotowski's

most durable Western allies.

Jennifer Kumiega has produced a work which is unlikely to be bettered in the English language. Of Polish descent herself, Ms Kumiega has taught herself the language of her forbears, made many trips to the Laboratory Theatre between 1975 and 1981 and even participated in their *Mountain Project*. Her book is obviously a labour of love, but it retains an analytical distance that prevents it from becoming another tract by an acolyte. My main criticism is that it makes often painful reading because of the difficulty in communicating what is essentially non-linguistic experience (a difficulty which is acknowledged as being partly a problem of translation but which also rests in the fact that so much of Grotowski's experiments take those involved into areas almost beyond the reach of language).

It is hard now to assess the long-term influences of the man. In a recent study of the British fringe theatre since 1968, *Dreams and Deconstructions*, there is not one mention of Grotowski's name, while as long ago as 1973 James Roose-Evans in *Experimental Theatre* could only summon up a grudging respect. Grotowski was ultimately an elitist, concerned with the creation of a special actor for a special audience and though rejecting much of the paraphernalia of so-called Rich Art — design, lighting, text etc — not above giving such credits in the programmes for his production.

In August 1984, Grotowski packed up his laboratory almost overnight and disappeared. There were many rumours: that he had actually burnt it down, that he had gone mad. Now he is rumoured to be living in New York, although on this part of the story Ms Kumiega remains strangely mute. This is a pity because, for all his brilliance and vision and for all Ms Kumiega's painstaking and thorough research, he still remains a figure from the past rather than one whose influence is to be felt at the heart of our theatrical activity in the Eighties.

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BOOKS

Use and abuse

Hannah Steinberg on juvenile drug addiction

The Drugs Menace. By Mary Manning. Foreword by Michael Weather, MP. Columbus Books £8.95. 0 86287 179 4. The Mother of David S. By Yvonne Keuls (translated by J W Arriens). Souvenir Press £8.95. 0 285 62695 7.

Books on drug abuse have been mushrooming for years; so what is one to make of yet another two?

However one reacts to headlines ("Armed Services aid urged by MPs to combat drugs war", *The Times*, May 2, front page), there is consensus that personal, medical and social problems connected with drug abuse are growing in this country. Ostriching is no longer acceptable. Up-to-date and accessible information is needed for rational countermeasures.

The Drugs Menace endeavours to provide this for the general reader, and especially for parents, teachers and other "lay" people who have to cope with the day-to-day lives of young drug users and addicts. The young people at risk would also find it useful, if only, a cynic might say, as a guide on how to avoid being found out.

Parents, often from respectably educated middle class backgrounds, are apt to be bewildered and ashamed by delinquency in the family, and reluctant to seek professional help. If they do, and despite publicity and good intentions, help through GPs or general hospitals can itself be reluctant and thin on the ground. Even within specialist facilities, resources and above all treatment methods are hampered by lack of money and of clear recommendations from research.

Therefore a large part of the book deals with practical self-help, such as how parent groups function (interestingly illustrated by developments in the Wirral) or how to recognize if one's child is using heroin. Changes in behaviour are more important than physical signs; in order of importance, they are: lack of appetite, no interest in personal appearance, unexpected absences from home (to obtain supplies etc). Also, today, when heroin is smoked rather than injected, a sudden interest in discarded household packaging, with used tubes, burnt tin foil and spent matches found lying about, can be regarded as conclusive. The main characteristics of relevant drugs and solvents are given in a chapter ("Recognising the enemy"), including what to expect from multiple use of substances, from interactions of substances with alcohol and from using drugs in sport.

Why do some individuals become addicted and others, with apparently equal opportunity, do not? The concept of an "addictive personality type" has received little support from research, though that of vulnerability has. Inadequate family and social relationships, fear of (or actual) unemployment, poverty, loneliness, lack of self-confidence and of interests, a sense of futility, can all contribute to disaffection and to a drift into the drug culture.

The last chapter ("A port in the storm") is about philosophies and methods of treatment, especially in various residential centres, with an astonishing 19 pages of annotated addresses of organizations offering help for drug users and their families. A fashionably "laid back" approach is reported with approval - don't panic, don't overreact, don't condone or collude - as are the 12 "spiritual" steps of Families Anonymous. Practically, nothing much is said about comparative outcomes of different kinds of treatment. There is a chilling appendix on "Pushers".

The book, within its limits, appears well-balanced and "reasonable". Official statistics and outcomes of investigations, mostly of the questionnaire and survey kind - the "how to recognize" material, for example, is based on well-known 1960s studies in Crawley, New Town - are supported by interviews with experts and case descriptions of individual addicts. It gives a reasonable if surface review of what may be happening in this country and of where improvement is needed.

The Mother of David S is one single case description, by the mother, of her talented eldest son, from crying baby to difficult school boy and eventual drug addict, and the effect - mostly havoc - on herself and the rest of her professional, well-off Dutch family.

It is a novel, based on fact, and is plainly observed, well written, and intensely interesting to read. The trail of lies and deception, thieving, suicide attempts, simulated and actual blackmail, physical violence, hallucinations, turmoil and danger has the inevitable feel of classical tragedy. Some of the happenings are quite horrific, but they are described with taste and restraint. The message, if any, is bleak. A junkie is and probably remains a junkie, devoted and energetic attempts at "cure" notwithstanding. At best one can learn to ignore the abys of his degradation, and rejoice when he surfaces for brief spells of



lingo

The things one hears

In the present instance, heard on BBC: "Having got the miners back to work, the next thing is to get the industry back to normal as soon as possible." A dangling participle in a nut shell!

But pause for a moment. Is it offending sentence so very different structure from: "Granted that this so, it still remains true that we should send help." Or: "This being the case we must help." Or: "Given the attitude, we must refuse." Or: "Considering the circumstances, he is lucky." There is a long and well established tradition in English of absolute constructions being used as sentence modifiers.

If we can happily write: "The decision having been taken, it remained to implement it," would it not be sensible also to accept "Having made the decision, it remains only to implement it"? That is clear, unambiguous and direct, and offers only a risk of Latin grammar that a participle may have a noun or pronoun to agree with.

However, the prudent writer will carefully avoid such constructions when the participle form can unobtrusively resume its verbal function and produce an incongruous image. "Coming down the street, her dog produced an unforgettable effect."

William T McEld

Medieval Europe

The Flowering of the Middle Ages. Edited by John Evans. Thames & Hudson £18.00. 0 500 001 5.

The republication, after 10 years and in print, of this magnificent illustrated survey of what Dr Evans describes as "an extraordinarily coherent and integrated civilization", is most welcome.

Following her foreword and an introductory article on the structure of medieval society in Europe, six aspects of its life and culture are examined in depth: monasticism, architecture, court life, knowledge and learning, death and judgement, and trade.

The book's purpose: to make medieval history "more real to the ordinary man", is greatly facilitated by its 303 illustrations, all authentic contemporary documents of which 93 are in colour. A joy to study.

H C Deal

Be safe: switch off

The Plug-In Drug. Television, Children and the Family. By Marie Winn. Penguin £3.95. 0 14 00 7698 0. **Television Mythologies.** Stars, Shows and Signs. Edited by Len Masterman. Comedia/MK Media Press £10.50. 0 906 890 551.

Each of these two books on television argues a particular case, but they start from opposite assumptions. Marie Winn's first chapter is entitled: "It's Not What You Watch", and she notes that "concern about the effects of television on children has centred almost exclusively upon the contents of the programs" and that "the very nature of the television experience... is rarely considered". In contrast, Ed Buscombe, in a chapter on television continuity, asserts that "television is not a drug" and that "simply watching the flickering screen, irrespective of the contents of the image, surely holds few attractions". Admittedly, he is not referring solely to children, who are Marie Winn's primary concern, but she tends to suggest that for adults too, the screen serves as a pacifier.

Underlying these two approaches are two different cultures. *Television Mythologies* was conceived as a tribute to Roland Barthes, whose importance

Masterman locates in a challenge to "the pre-eminent significance of literature, the concomitant devaluation of popular cultural forms and the displacement of political and ideological questions into questions of literary value". Winn, on the other hand, assembles a mass of material in support of her view that the most harmful effects of television are that it discourages reading and disrupts family life. For her, literature offers a uniquely enriching imaginative experience and it is significant that the programme she mistrusts most strongly is *Sesame Street*, precisely because it has been praised for its contribution to literacy and to pre-school education. She is (if the word is not overloaded) a reactionary and if television could be de-invented, she would do just that.

When she describes television as "a pathogenic influence" and implies that it is not even a symptom, but the source of "alienation, dehumanization, apathy, (and) moral vacuum" in contemporary society, she is liable to feel that she is overstating her case. She appears to posit a model of an ideal, pre-television society in which all American children engaged in imaginative play within a loving family circle: remove the demon in the corner of the living room, and this paradise may be re-

gained. She admits that her own research was limited to middle-class families and it clearly did not extend to even a superficial consideration of pre-1950 social history which would have shown that alienation, dehumanization, apathy and moral vacuum could exist before *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* and *Sesame Street*. To suggest that the only answer to any of the problems raised by television is to blow up the set, means that one has opted out of asking questions.

The contributors to *Television Mythologies* cannot be accused of ignoring the content of the programmes or their social, political and historical context. But they work within their own sets of assumptions which, to the uninitiated, may be as surprising as Marie Winn's wholesale rejection of the medium (as, for example, when Philip Simpson writes: "For me, *One Man and His Dog* is not a sinister or dangerous programme, though I can understand the arguments that would see it as such").

According to its editor, the book represents "a collaborative attempt to unmask some of the myths perpetuated by British television" during the summer of 1984. Len Masterman himself covers some familiar ground in his analysis of BBC news reporting of "the world of Orgreave", showing how

changes between the early and late evening "reveal the extent to which news presentation is an ideological construction, rather than a matter of unproblematic reporting"; but often venture into such less well-trodden fields as commercials (Colin Adams), the Torvill and Dean (Bruce Carson), TV magazines (John O Thompson), breakfast television (Elizabeth Wilson) and the context of television previewing (Katy Meyer). Ian Connell suggests that exaggerated media influence may be exaggerated and David Widgory contributes a parody of a semiotologist's approach to *The 4 Team*.

The shade of Roland Barthes hovers in the background, inviting us to unravel the apparently innocuous fabric of these myths. As usual, it matters that those who work in the media at times feel persecuted by the academics who write about it. The discovery that no representation of innocent of hidden significance in the historical and political framework of society, soon leads to an understanding of the sinister and dangerous implications of television sheeping trials. Perhaps, after all, Marie Winn is right: the only safe answer is to switch off.

Robin Bur

Popular politics



Ireland and the Land Question 1800-1922. By Michael J Winstanley. Methuen, Lancaster Pamphlets £1.50. 0 416 37420 4.

Victorian Radicalism. The Middle-Class Experience 1830-1914. By Paul Adelman. Longman Studies in Modern History series £4.95. 0 582 49197 5.

The Chartists. By Richard Brown and Christopher Daniels. Macmillan Documents and Debates series £3.50. 0 333 36249 7.

The Making of the Welfare State (second edition). By R J Coates. Longman Modern Times series £1.95. 0 582 22362 8.

Tolpuddle. An Historical Account through the Eyes of George Loveless. By Graham Padden. Trades Union Congress £3.00. 1 85006 041 X.

Coalmining Women. Victorian Lives and Campaigns. By Angela V John. Cambridge University Press. 'Women in History' series, £2.15 0521 27872 4.

Six meaty studies clamour to squeeze into an already over-crowded sixth-form reading-list. The popular politics of the last century are constantly re-examined, and too many brave authors setting out to summarize the latest state of play are overtaken before publication by fresh revisions. To some extent Michael Winstanley's *Ireland and the Land Question* suffers this fate; but failure to take note of the very latest twist in Irish historiography in no way limits the value of his brief survey of the rampant revisionism of two decades that has stood the *Land Question* so firmly on its head.

Winstanley can write confidently about the minimal impact of famine, about contented farmers, about absentee as an irrelevant minority, about the prosperity and stability that characterized late Victorian and Edwardian times. Almost the only traditional element is the undoubted misery of impoverished peasants.

Paul Adelman's more substantial book covers less familiar ground. Reputable middle-class radicals have not been fashionable of late. *Victorian Radicalism* is a lively survey of recent research, hopping from one reference to the next in approved style. But it uses as well the dustier respectable volumes of "Life and Letters" and their copious quotations. This is a tale of optimism fading, from the ambiguous origins of the Anti Corn-Law League by way of Chamberlain's maverick misbehaviour to the dying fall of Morley, sinking beside the rumorous New Radicalism of Lloyd George.

Richard Brown and Christopher Daniels, experienced teacher-writers, have produced a documentary collection that carries a clear way through the ever-growing complexities of *The Chartists*. Chartism embraced such a bewildering array of attitudes, demands and expressions, so many local issues and divergent leaders, that its problems can hardly be confined to a slim volume; but this is a workmanlike contribution towards understanding.

R J Coates' *Making of the Welfare State* is a lively survey of recent research, hopping from one reference to the next in approved style. But it uses as well the dustier respectable volumes of "Life and Letters" and their copious quotations. This is a tale of optimism fading, from the ambiguous origins of the Anti Corn-Law League by way of Chamberlain's maverick misbehaviour to the dying fall of Morley, sinking beside the rumorous New Radicalism of Lloyd George.

Geared to meet the demands of the majority of O Level, CSE and corresponding exam syllabuses, these brothers prove to be a highly attractive and dynamic duo. Skilfully and imaginatively compiled, and generously illustrated, mapped and diagrammed (many of the pictures are agreeably offset and unobtrusive) both books manage to cram a great deal on to the page without giving it an unduly cluttered look.

One can best give potential purchasers an idea of what they would be buying by a rundown of the treatment of an important topic in each volume.

High society

European Society 1500-1700. By Henry Kamen. Hutchinson £14.95. 0 19 156990 7. £7.97. 156991 5.

European Urbanization 1500-1800. By Jan de Vries. Methuen £22.50. 0 416 36290 7.

Sweeping majestically through the stressful centuries that gave birth to a new Europe, Henry Kamen matches generalization with vivid detail in masterly fashion. His *Iron Century* of a few years back sits at this book's core, and lacking odd decades fore and aft as well as the latest on family structure and popular culture has not substantially affected tone or content. Of violence, tension and upheaval we are made well aware, as Reformation and Renaissance spread their ripple-circles through every social level. These large events themselves remain marginal, and the focus is on the man in the village street; names almost without *The Prince*, in fact.

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R J Coates' *Making of the Welfare*

Firstly, in the 14 page chapter on the American Civil War, the double-page section on "The Question of Slavery". A brief reference (perhaps almost too brief) to such leading abolitionist propagandists as William Lloyd Garrison and Harriet Beecher Stowe; a lucid summary of the delicate Missouri Compromise of 1820-1821 and the even more precarious Compromise of 1850; the collapse of these basically fudging and, time-serving arrangements in the Kansas mini-war of 1856, with the ensuing formation of the Republican Party. A graphic slave-auction print, and two excellent maps displaying the distribution of free and slave-owning states in 1821 and 1854 respectively, effectively illuminate the text.

In the later book, a four-page section on "The Rise of Mussolini and the Fascists" achieves (and this is no easy task) a coherent summary of a period of Italian history chaotic even by her exacting standards of disorder. Inset

State tells a simpler story. Indeed, it was written in rather simpler days and for less sophisticated readers, before so many doubts set in and new questions were asked. Its hopeful tale reaches a climax in 1948; the more dubious story of the last three decades is tacked on as revealing supplement.

These sober studies conceal individual tales and tragedies behind bland generalization and cool analysis, save for the occasional over-vivid snapshots enlivening the *Welfare State*. It is, I suppose, reassuring that only 400,000 odd smallholders faced hardship in Ireland, not the rural millions we once grieved for. *Tolpuddle* is at the other end of the scale. The Tolpuddle Six have always enjoyed headline treatment, and the TUC has attractively resuscitated George Loveless's moving story for their 150th anniversary. Supplementary documents, some in facsimile, illustrate the righteous indignation of authority and the bewilderment of its victims.

Angela John's microcosm of working-class history is, by contrast, totally unfamiliar, and very welcome. *Coalmining Women* uses the records of the eccentric A J Munby to fill out an unusual perspective on the 1842 Mines Act and its consequences. Universally acclaimed as an enlightened measure, it robbed some women of employment, income and independence. They resented moral and social standards imposed by an enlightened middle class. A small group (at most 4 or 5 thousand) of Lancashire pit-brow lassies kept their jobs in the industry, above ground, until the 1960s. This is a vivid and curious fragment of social history, raising intriguing issues, though marred in the telling by tangled tenses, melodrama and carelessness.

Tom Corfe

Engaging conspectus

analyses of the career of Mussolini himself, and of the theory (if thus it can be dignified) of Ur-Fascism, each a man and a creed marvellously well-matched in their essential bombastic emptiness, and in their both having no real basis of belief except endless and usually self-defeating opportunism. Pictures of *Il Duce* posing, preening, strutting and orating and of Fascist demo's shrewdly suggest the grandiose hysteria whose upsurge so constantly threatens the thin crust of Italian political life.

Exercises, explanatory notes and suggestions for further activities and projects complement what is already a rich and tempting mix of ingredients. These books are well calculated to arouse and maintain the interest of all those pupils capable of being stimulated and held by an alert and engaging conspectus of modern world history.

Martin Fagg

In brief

A Guide to Industrial Archaeology Sites in Britain. By W M Mitchell. Granada £10.95. 0 246 11781 8. It is clear and compact. It describes selected sites in half-page detail, more in a bare five lines or so; and, in embracing "social" archaeology, it covers almost every kind of visible history. Ipevitably, there are debatable omissions and trivial errors, but they are far outweighed by unexpected and welcome surprises.

Gwyn Jones has updated *A History of the Vikings* (Oxford Paperbacks, £4.95. 0 19 285139 X) to take into account of sixteen years' research, discovery and discussion. Additions to his excellent narrative go some way towards reflecting rapidly changing attitudes, and despite omissions and squabbles this remains a reliable and readable survey.

Tom Corfe

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Our Animal Friends. By Alice and Martin Provensen. Walker Books £3.95. 0 7445 0266 7. **Town and Country.** By Alice and Martin Provensen. Jonathan Cape £5.95. 0 224 02084 6.

Provensen fans in England have had to wait 10 years longer than in America for the latest book about Maple Hill farm. If you know and enjoy *The Year at Maple Hill Farm* and *A Horse, A Hound, A Goat and a Gander*, you will renew many old acquaintances here. The bound has gone to his long home and that particular horse is not mentioned but Goat Dear is still around as is Evil Murdoch, the gander villain of the earlier book.

This one is more general. We are told lots of animals' names - and the Provensens are both prodigious and inventive with them - but also look at farm species as a whole. As usual, the pictures are bold and detailed by turns. Huge Max the cat takes up a whole double spread, which is a lot of cat in a large format book like this, but baby skulls are just as nicely characterized. It's full of useful tips like how to

weigh a dog, but doesn't avoid the hard facts of farm life. A rooster is taken by a fox and Max leaves bits of dead mouse on the doorstep: "Not a pretty sight. But then, no cats are vegetarians. It is not in their nature." The last page, with pictures of the animals that were and will be, as well as the ones that are, is both truthful and moving.

Less successful is the Provensens' most recent book, *Town and Country*, from another publisher. The contrast between urban and rural life has exercised writers and artists since classical times, but few handle both sides equally well. The Provensens are no exception. They start with the town and though they establish an acceptable city-style in their crowded, multi-cultural pictures, the text shows less awareness of urban diversity. "Almost everyone who visits a big city stays at a hotel", for instance, or "When you are hungry you can go out to eat in a restaurant" bespeaks the comfortably-off visitor rather than the resident.

Back on their home ground in the second half, with country life, you still miss the personal details of Maple Hill. "The sheep complain" or "Geese gabble" are no substitute for the portrait in *Our Animal Friends* of the sheep who faints every time she is sheared or the four vivid pages of disagreeable characteristics, which ends: "That's the trouble with geese, who are otherwise nearly perfect."

Mary Hoffman

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ARTS

Stereotypes

Lonely Cowboy, By Alfred Fagon. Tricycle Theatre.
Susan's Breasts, By Jonathan Gems. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs.
Measure for Measure, By William Shakespeare. Young Vic Theatre.
Henry V, By William Shakespeare. RSC Barbican Theatre.
Sweeney Todd, By Stephen Sondheim/Hugh Wheeler.
Half Moon Theatre.
The Corn Is Green, By Enid Blyton. The Old Vic.

A "world premiere", *Lonely Cowboy* concerns "English second generation blacks" in Britain. Twenty-year-olds Flight and Gina have opened the Lonely Cowboy Cafe to which come ravishingly pretty barmid Thelma loved by her do-well Wally. Rasta teenagers feminist Candy and poet Dalton, new policeman Jack and wanderer-turned Stanley, a gnuja pusher set on starting a protection racket. Through six scenes Gina scolds Flight; Stanley wins Thelma; Wally steals Stan's stock of marijuana; Candy and Dalton quarrel and make up; Wally fatally stabs Stanley who shoots him dead. This sudden violent eruption abruptly ends a play in which people who are stereotypes enter/exit for no apparent reason, explaining the action, discarding on love, assimilation, freedom, blacks and the police, drugs etc. Good actors struggle to flesh them out and enliven leaden dialogue. *Lonely Cowboy* is bad copy for blacks fighting racism, and a poor advertisement for black theatre.

Susan's Breasts by Jonathan Gems does a similar job on white 22-year-olds, and with a comparable lack of stagecraft. Actress-waitress Susan sleeps around having been made sterile by starting the pill at 14. Her studs include would-be novelist Paul, restaurateur-boss Ken, semiotic film-maker Adrian and natural-man pop star Lemon who bursts into her life swearing undying love-vowing to give her his baby. Successfully impregnated, Susan's breasts swell and endanger her career acting an actress. Lemon breaks out of prison promising her a new life in Spain. Suburban Carol, on the dramatic periphery, moves in with Susan and is soon smoking heroin, swilling vodka and stealing cash, doped up in rubber corset and leather. All this involves

shouting, swearing, sex-talk, speeches which sound bookish. What Gems means and what the design and sound-track signify are all a puzzle. No puzzles disturb David Thatcher's production of Shakespeare's disturbing *Measure for Measure*. Shelia Keegan's modern-dress design is well painted with the title - focuses attention on the actors. The Duke (Peter Guinness) painstakingly sets out the main plot, keeps its equivocal argument going when impersonating the Friar. It is his play, not Angelo's (despite John Gillett's fine edge performance) which compels belief in Isabella's attractions despite her plainness. Janet Crawford cleverly doubles Obedience and a line of courtiers subsumed under PA: Rob Edwards plays wide-boy Lucio *con brio*. It is an ideal school's production: easy to follow, maintaining interest, amusing and touching. Its skating over the play's darker questions should provoke endless class discussion.

Kenneth Branagh's brilliant complex characterization of *Henry V*, unevenly directed by Adrian Noble, should do likewise. Bob Crowley's designs clearly distinguish the opposing forces, though the golden French camp smacks of window-dressing. Fine acting from Nicholas Woodeson (Dauphin), Christopher Ravenscroft (Montjoy), and Patricia Routledge (Quickly) compensates for grotesque Pistol, MacMorris, and Jany. Ian McDiarmid's posturing, vocally-gymnastic Chorus mars a production which is otherwise grandly patriotic stirring stuff.

Stirring too, *Sweeney Todd* opens the new Half Moon Theatre with a bang. Chris Bond directs it in full-blooded grand guignol style, thrilling and scary. It is hardly recognizable as the Drury Lane failure in a theatre which fits it perfectly and with an enthusiastic cast. Leon Greene (Mrs Lovett) steals the show in a production which had the audience shouting for more. Deborah Kerr's furs rose to her at the end of *The Corn Is Green*. She looked surprised. No wonder, for her tiny voice and delicate gentility suited neither Miss Moffat nor the theatre. Imelda Staunton (Hessie) and Bridget Turner (her mum) give life to a tame performance.

John James

Television
Ab-original

"It's difficult to get into a black fella's head that one man is higher than another," said a Victorian clergyman of the Australian aborigines, unselfishly espousing Ciesar's values rather than those usually associated with his religion - though, to be fair, the Roman imperialists never subjected a conquered people to the treatment meted out to the first Australians. Something of their story was told by John Pilger in *The Secret Country* (ITV, May 21) and it was not good advance publicity for the celebration, in 1988, of the second centenary of the landing of HMS "Supply". An Act of Contrition would be more fitting.

To some extent, it is already being made. BBC2 (May 24) showed the first episode of the Australian television drama *Women of the Sun* which looks at the arrival of the "clay faces" from the point of view of those whose land and lives were to be taken for the white man to make his convict settlement, surfer's paradise and nuclear testing ground. Aboriginal society was probably less idyllic than these programmes suggest, but the bias is part of

the price to pay for nearly 200 years of falsification of history and denial of human rights.

The law of cross-channel coincidence meant that the Aborigines had more coverage on both sides of British television last week than in the previous six months and the issues raised by their struggle for recognition seemed to be reflected, obliquely, elsewhere in the week's output. *Diverse Reports* (C4, May 22) put the case for separate schools for West Indian children in Britain. Starting from the conclusion of the Swann Committee that Black children tend to under-achieve in an integrated system, Carlton Duncan argued that Black schools would provide an environment in which they could flourish and that the contribution they made to society as a result would ultimately decrease racialism. C4 also showed Franco Rosso's film *Ubu and the Clowns* (May 24) and on *Voices* (May 22), brought together Susan Sontag and South African novelist Nadine Gordimer to discuss the writer and politics. Gordimer spoke of the inability that her work should deal with injustice in "an unnatural and oppressive social order"; but, as the Australian experience showed, societies can remain unaware of the injustices in their midst. Perhaps television has done something to change that.

Robin Buss

Dovetail

Witness (15)
 Plaza, Lower Regent Street

Peter Weir's *Witness* achieves a perfect dovetailing of genres - so neatly, in fact, that it is a case-study in the use of conventions for other ends. The cops-and-corruption stuff is reassuringly familiar: big-city detective John Book (Harrison Ford) finds out that his boss is implicated in a murder. His only clue-witness is a boy (Lukas Haas), who must both hide out until, with the hunters slowly closing in throughout the film, all can be resolved in a final shoot-out. There is even a sub-plot involving the boy's widowed mother (Kelly McGillis) and we know that, beneath Book's tough and cynical exterior, a tender and essentially uncorrupt heart beats faster in her presence.

Or, if you don't know, it is a long time since you went to the movies. *Witness* assumes that you will react to the signs even as it proceeds to criticize them. The boy and his mother are Amish, members of a Pennsylvania

fundamentalist sect that abhors the modern world: they do not drive cars, shoot guns, watch television or use telephones. The men wear black clothes and broad-brimmed hats; their moustaches do not require them to knock the teeth out of any "English" who expect to resist and the women are jeered at and the women are expected to resist the attentions of handsome, hard-bodied, gun-toting detectives. Amish society is secure and repressive for its members, and provides an ideal background against which to test the values of John Book's violent and self-seeking city precinct.

The high point of the film is consequently not the murder, the chase, the gun-fight in the underground car-park or the gruesome settlement of accounts, but the erection of a barn in which the whole Amish community unites for the benefit of one family: superb camerawork, music and editing leave no doubt as to the importance of an episode which, if this were just a thriller, would ridiculously interrupt the narrative. And the love-story turns out to be no sub-plot after all. Whose side are we on? In Book's world there is no puritan morality to separate the lovers and a strong man will not meekly submit to injustice.

RB

Destiny

Ubu and the Clowns.
 Actors' Touring Company (Tour)
 the South of England until July 26

It's appropriate that the father of the Theatre of the Absurd should be an adolescent schoolboy whose first satire his science teacher and his Belle Epoque at the same time. In *Ubu Roi*, *Ubu Enchained* and *Ubu and the Clowns*, King Ubu and his wife fleeing from Poland they had once ruled as despots. Arriving in France they decide that freedom can't be won through power and that the ultimate freedom is therefore voluntary slavery.

ATC's adaptation of *Ubu Enchained*, *Ubu and the Clowns*, gives us a picture of a France grotesquely infatuated with its own sense of freedom, to its extent where disobedience is more or less compulsory. Now this sort of job is all very well if it can be sustained theatrically for two hours. In most cases, the *Ubu* plays will suffer the time as the director runs out of ideas. ATC's *Ubu* succeeds because of its unity the clowning technique brings it. That's not to say that the whole wears bumpy trousers and red noses shout at the audience. What director John Retallack has achieved is a physical style of acting that his cast are equally proficient in - a sort of aggressive spasm that starts at the feet and wriggles its way down the body towards the *merde* spluttered stage.

Pa Ubu is a refreshing change. *Ubu* is a portrait of the crazy monarch who demonstrates that you don't have to over the top to be obscene. He achieves some of the most subtle breaking of wind I've ever seen at stage and his muttered asides, delivered in the style of an outraged colonel, are delightful. *Amish* performance as *Ubu* should carry a government health warning and Malcolm Scates as the naive military man, played as a bewildered Dirk Bogard, contrasts beautifully with the scabrous excesses of the rest of the cast. It's a mistake to examine *Ubu*'s work too closely for philosophical content. Eventually, everybody wants to copy Ubu and become slaves themselves. They even offer him a crown again, but naturally, he won't wear it. He is not a cerebral comment on the nature of freedom or leadership, it's just a joke. It's Ubu's comic destiny to be king whether he likes it or not.

Nick Baker

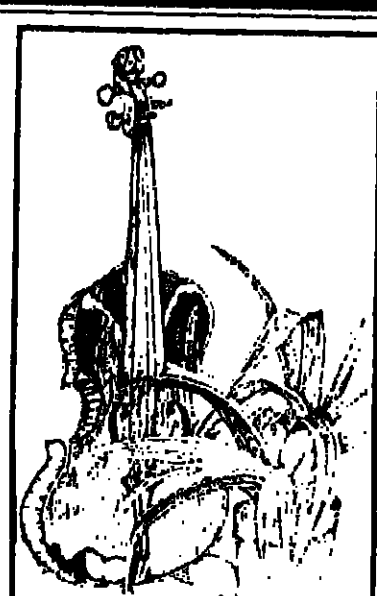
Art
for all

An Exhibition of Examination Work.
 Woodside School, Woodside Road,
 London, E13.

An East-End district with its own share of urban blight, Plaistow, is not a place where you might expect to find much enthusiasm for art and design. Yet, despite the urge to get a job as soon as possible, every pupil at Woodside School continues to do something in the visual arts right into the fifth form persuaded, no doubt, by an energetic staff, good resources and a generous choice of activities.

The range and quality of this year's mostly CSE work is excellent with two and three-dimensional objects supported by some very good sheets of technical and observational drawing. Flat-pattern work is nicely balanced between quite large prints and designs on paper, like Debbie Orpin's stylized woman surrounded by flowers, and it is easy to see how the fast-food pieces among the vigorous, well-executed ceramics relate to still-life studies.

The 3D work is particularly impressive. A firmly modelled, portrait head by Joanne Ling is exceptional for a fourth-year and Debbie Vaughan's large Buddha in metalized resin un-



Top left: Debbie Vaughan's Buddha; above: work by Adoni Benjamin

usually ambitious. In addition, there are functional items, like Lisa Holman's pedestal table. Turtle Bee's wooden seat and Mandy Taylor's hound's-tooth, check suit, that combine sensible design with great technical skill.

Surprisingly, none of these pupils has even considered going to an art college. Local attitudes to higher education are such that they prefer to make useful things for themselves or provide equipment and toys for a nearby hospital. Which is why Colin Balding and Rodney Solomon constructed rocking horses and Paul Barker a metal golf trolley. At Woodside School, art and design are not exceptional activities but integrated into the life of all.

Michael Clarke

Accord

The Chocolate Soldier, By Oscar Straus.
 Bromsgrove School, May 22, 23 and 24

Put 17-year-old soloists in a procession arch and make them sing over the top of a 25 piece orchestra placed between stage and audience and it inexorably follows that some moments of your show will simply be lost in the orchestral sound. It is a pity that this otherwise excellent and exuberant production fell into this difficulty, especially as the problem was surely easily foreseeable.

The evening was an enjoyable one nevertheless - well staged, beautifully dressed and marked by some excellent individual performances. Christopher Thomas caught the anti-militarist spirit of the title role very well, and Kate Holland made a charming leading lady. John Reed as Alexis proved beyond all doubt that enthusiasm,

coupled with barefaced effrontery, can be a substitute for vocal quality and Sarah Dillon, as Mascha the maid, showed genuine and rare comic talent. What made this show, though, was the chorus. Amateur choruses are notorious for being wooden. This one, however, by some excellent dancing and vigorously led by the orchestra, was infectious alive with every last soldier and villager down to the smallest acting and re-acting in full measure. Their act two finale made the whole show for me.

Gerald Haigh

The Children's Society.
Church of England Children's SocietyCAR WASH
FORTNIGHT 1985

- Join us in this summer's big campaign to send a handicapped child on holiday.
- For a fortnight between May and September The Children's Society wants you and your friends to wash as many vehicles as possible for a set charge.
- Details and Forms from:
 Mrs Marion Brown, Room CW5,
 The Children's Society, Old Town Hall,
 Kennings Road, London SE11 4QD.
 Tel: 01-736 2441.

Next week

Mark Bonham Carter on
 British immigration law;
 Robin Buss on 30 years of
 cinema; Children's books

Among this week's contributors:

Steve Grant is assistant editor of *Time Out*.
 Nicholas Shrimpton is Dean of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.
 Hannah Steinberg is Professor of Psychopharmacology at University College London.

ARTS

Time after time

The Box.
 Luck Playhouse Theatre in Education.
 Tel: (052) 442145

What gets remembered, and why? What's the relationship between myth, history and reality? These daunting questions are at the centre of Luck TIE's current programme for nine-year-olds.

Before the team's visit, teachers experience the programme for themselves, returning to their classes to prepare with them a time capsule - a box of items for future generations to judge today by. On the morning of the visit the children are cast in the role of experts on the past at their yearly meeting behind the scenes of a museum. Into the meeting bursts a Mr Samuels, desperate for an interpretation of the contents of a time capsule that he has found under a decorated stone in the wilds of the Yorkshire moors. This capsule's contents - some easily recognizable, some open to imaginative speculation but all with a "primitive" feel to them - are pored over by the young "experts", now firmly into their roles as professors and using appropriate language to record their findings.

There then comes a deftly managed

arrival of a time traveller whose appearance matches the picture of the man on the stone under which Mr Samuels found his time capsule. The man, suggestively named Doc Mentry, uses language that suggests that he's from the future rather than the past. He has a "race memory" of electricity, planes, cars and televisions (another box) but his language and dress are mysteriously primitive. He refers to his past (our present) as "The Good Times" and his present (our future) as "The Bad Times".

Doc Mentry's story of how the good times had turned bad, performed in a box like set with the help of two other team members is a strange mixture of mime and song, using the language and grammar of television. It aims to give a mythic account of an apocalyptic future, by telling the story of how a symbolic breakdown of a civilization, an environmental apocalypse, or perhaps a political one, but predictions of epidemic or nuclear holocausts are wisely sidestepped.

Throughout the day-long programme there is plenty of time for discussion and reflection, both in and out of role. One topic for speculation is why Doc Mentry's future world will remember us in the way shown by the

play. Are these really the good times? To help them, they are shown yet another box containing Doc Mentry's precious relics of the past (our present) - a doll's head, her arm, a toy truck and a toy television.

Coldly described, the programme appears very confusing - too confusing, perhaps, for the average nine-year-old. An additional problem was that I saw the programme (but not the preparatory or follow up work) in a school at which, for reasons entirely outside the company's control, the response was not strong. The structure of the piece was evident and the initial session in which the pupils were cast as anthropologists worked well - an object lesson in developing from class-room to dramatic language which is very valuable to teachers not versed in the technique. It's harder to comment on the team's claim that the programme illustrates the reasons for myth making (for current myths, read "the media" including, of course, the gogglebox) and the selective process of mythography. What *The Box* does illustrate is the uselessness of the well worn phrase "The Olden Days". It provides a picture of history as a continuum in which one person's past is another's present.

Nick Baker

Sheer
poetryBerlie Doherty on being
a 'wopher in school'

When teacher Jane Blackburn of Charter School in Barnsley asked if she could have writers visiting her school for a poetry day, she was given funding from Yorkshire Arts and from Barnsley Education on condition that she involved other schools. In the way that such things do, her plans snowballed until she had a major event on her hands - three writers handling 900 children from 16 schools. I was one of the writers there with Wes Magee and Bob Pegg. A lot of nervous energy goes into these events: children come with high expectations - they're having a day off school and they're hoping to be entertained; teachers come wanting to see something that they wouldn't have thought of doing in the classroom themselves. For the writer in school, it's a tough day's work.

The day started at nine. I had a visiting group from Ekeston Junior, and a handful of other Charter School children; about 35 for a 90-minute workshop. Oral work on building up a poem together was slow starting until they realized that suggestions like "when a frog croaks it sounds like an old man bending down" were perfectly acceptable. When they were talking and thinking freely I broke them into knots of four to write group poems. They all had different subjects, but

their question was "What's it like?" My favourite was one about a fish "quiet in the reeds, like a mouse... silver, like a princess".

A large group from Laywood First School next, all came to write, and happier working flat on their stomachs or kneeling up to test against chair seats. It was rewarding for me to come across lines like "diamonds remind me of sunshine on water..." they remind me of grass... their teachers were aware of other responses; quiet children contributing to oral work, or clamouring to read out their poem.

School sessions are always challenging to writers. You never quite know what teachers are expecting of you, and of course you don't know anything about the children you're working with. You're changing focus all the time. So, although it's pretty daunting, it's just part of the job to move from 7-year-olds to 17-year-olds. My group of 30 from the sixth form college were every bit as responsive as the little ones had been, and applied themselves just as readily to the written tasks; the only real difference was in the focus of the language I used to them, and my own need to explain my choice of exercises and the structure of the session. The pupils go out exhilarated with rapid achievement, but the writer is left frustrated; you've only begun to touch the surface. The class teachers were very reassuring; the work would go on, they promised.

But the day swings on. I hurried to my final and most challenging session - reading to 105 new children from 7 to 18. You can't afford to lose one child here; this is for all of them. And it's hot, and it's the last thing on Friday afternoon, and it's the end of a very full day...

The right
to know

"On Wednesday, July 9 (1982), I wrote an article on the loss of the *Sir Galahad*, which made it clear that the ship was given inadequate protection and that there was anger and bitterness over the incident." So said *The Observer's* Patrick Bishop in evidence to the House of Commons Defence Committee investigating coverage of the Falklands War. His article was suppressed by the military.

Add to this the fact that John Nott told journalists to "speculate as you wish" when they pressed him for details of casualties. It is not surprising that the loss of the *Sir Galahad* has become shrouded in official silence, rumour and accusations. Nowhere more so than in Wales: half a battalion of Welsh Guards was on board the ship when it was hit by the Argentine air force.

Greg Cullen's new play, *Taken Out*, takes that incident as its starting point and explores such issues as the right to know, accountability, and the "line between national interest and a government's self-interest. This it does by focusing on the lives of the three guardsmen and their families in what promises to be a particularly powerful play being staged by Theatre Powys. It is on tour in Wales and Hereford during June: details from *Theatre Powys* on Llundudru Wells (0597) 4444.

David Self

Musical chairs

Young Concert Artists Trust: A new venture in concert management for young professional musicians

The young Mozart had his father Leopold to manage his professional career. Many of today's prodigies will fall by the wayside unless they receive adequate support and guidance in the important period between the end of their training and their launch on to the concert platform by a commercial agent. The Young Concert Artists Trust, brainchild of Sir Ian Hunter, chairman of Harold Holt Ltd, Britain's oldest concert management agency, was formed last year specifically to assist young performers in these crucial early stages. It has no equivalent in this country; its American counterpart, Young Concert Artists Inc, has been responsible for promoting such names as Pinchas Zukerman, Murray Perahia, and many others. YCAT is entirely funded by business; its main sponsors are WH Smith, who have for a minimum of three years provided a luxurious suite at the top of their New Fetter Lane building. Jane Glover, artistic director of the London Mozart Players, and Robert Ponsbury, controller, BBC Music, represent the musical world on the board of directors.

The six young artists selected after rigorous auditions to take part in the new venture have just completed a series of concerts throughout Britain. What would life have been like for them without YCAT? I talked to 19-year-old cellist Caroline Dale, and

pianist William Stephenson, who is 21. William played the Mozart D minor concerto at the age of 15, and after his debut at the Barbican in the Tchaikovsky concerto was recently invited back to play Rachmaninov. Caroline had been acclaimed as reminiscent of Jacqueline du Pré; she has appeared with the Halle, and is the youngest Associate of the Royal Academy of Music. Her most exciting achievement is an engagement to perform the Elgar concerto with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic next year. She has also been invited to tour as the British representative with Les Jeunes Musicales in Canada this summer.

Both felt that YCAT had relieved them of the worry of making contacts and handling their own promotion, thus allowing more time for practice and studying new works. It isn't just securing engagements - they had to be the right kind of engagements. Should Timothy Wilson, a young countertenor who is also on the books of YCAT, take the part of Medoro in the Scottish Opera production of Handel's *Orlando*? The Trust helped him make the difficult decision. After starting as an understudy he has just opened in the role to excellent reviews, and looks set for an operatic career.

Though Caroline and William are well on the way to becoming established as professional musicians, they belong to a generation that approaches solo performance with sensible realism. Like that other great cellist, Pierre Fournier, Caroline finds playing in a chamber group both enjoyable and beneficial to her solo work. William

feels it is important for a pianist to know the orchestral repertoire, and approaches a concerto not "as a single piece between piano and orchestra" but as a dialogue between two parties communicating with each other.

It is not enough just to be young and to possess talent; presentation, general musicianship and above all, stamina are essential. Today, when there is more young talent around than ever before, a proliferation of scholarships and bursaries makes it all too easy for a young artist to blossom and fade before he or she is established. Caroline lays some blame on competition such as the BBC Young Musician of the Year Contest, which she won at the age of 15; William is critical of the Elgar competition which "shuts you up for nine days to learn a new work", though, grinning modestly, he confesses he once learned a Liszt concerto in three days. "We are," says Michael Kaye, general administrator of YCAT, "in the business of building a bridge which only a few will be privileged to cross". YCAT has chosen wisely in opening its doors to such personable all round young musicians, who, despite talent and success, have not allowed soaring aspirations to let them forget that but for good fortune they too might have been sitting alone with their instruments waiting for the telephone to ring.

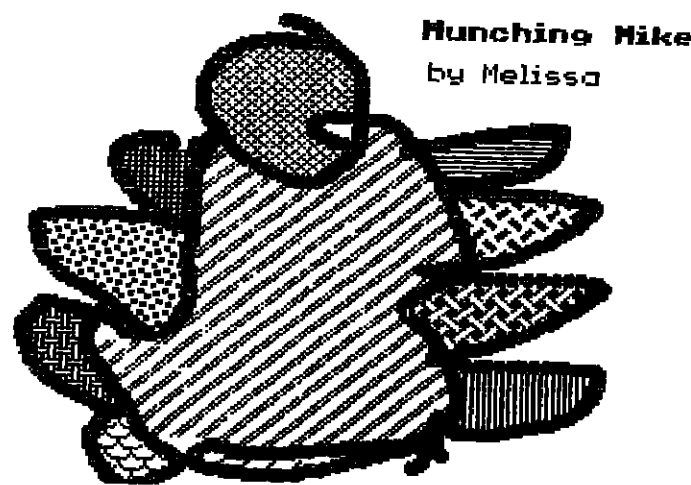
Philippa Davidson

The 1985 auditions for YCAT (string, keyboard and voice) are currently taking place. The Finals will take place on September 22 in the Purcell Room. For further details contact Young Concert Artists Trust, Room 405, 10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 01-301 0277 ext. 3420.



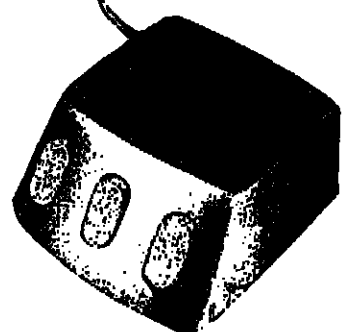
Top: Caroline Dale and Timothy Wilson; above: William Stephenson

RESOURCES



Munching Mike
by Melissa

See how they run



Andrew Rothery on MICE in the primary school

The mouse is an inexpensive piece of computer equipment which has shot to fame this year. It has recently become available for the BBC Micro and is, therefore, poised to become widely used in primary schools.

Mouse fans are delighted with the thought that the traditional computer keyboard can be bypassed. Users can draw pictures and diagrams directly without having to type in commands from the keyboard. The mouse is a small box which fits into the palm of your hand; its tail is a cable connected to your micro. When you "draw" on the table surface, corresponding images appear on the screen. Mice seem to have three eyes: buttons which you press to carry out certain functions.

Using software supplied with a mouse, you can embark on a form of wordprocessing which uses pictures and diagrams rather than words alone. Figures drawn can be stored on disk or printed out. Yesterday's work can be fed into the computer and edited, and different versions of the same diagram can be produced easily.

The AMX mouse came on the market recently and has already received widespread praise. The basic kit consists of a mouse whose lead plugs in to the user port. There is a ROM unit which must be fixed inside the computer, and a disk containing various programs and files. The mouse is basically a general-purpose piece of equipment which can be used with different programs. You can even write commands into your own programs so that input from the mouse can be used.

However, most primary schools will immediately want to work with the AMX art software supplied with the mouse. This is loaded from the disk,

but the disk can be removed, allowing users to insert their own blank disks in the disk drive. On loading, the user is confronted by a window of empty workspace surrounded by a border of tiny symbols. These are called icons, another key concept in the mouse world.

Suppose you want to draw with the pencil effect rather than the paint spray. Using the mouse, you simply move an arrow on the screen so that it points to the symbol for your desired implement. Pressing the "execute" button then activates your choice. Icons mean you do not even have to read text, let alone type it.

AMX art works in black and white, but offers a wide range of pre-designed patterns for shading in regions at the touch of a button. For primary schools, black and white is not a major restriction. After all, most of the work will be printed out and the usual printers are not in colour. There are two print options. Your figure can be printed out almost A4 size, or alternatively, eight times smaller. Testing revealed that circles come out as ovals on the small size print-out, which is irritating if you are doing geometrical diagrams.

Another mouse concept is the "pull-down menu". A number of headings are printed across the top of the screen. On selecting one of these, a menu of commands is revealed, rather like pulling down a roller blind. You can then select a command from the menu and the menu will roll itself up tidily afterwards so you can carry on working. These menus are written in words. They enable you to control the printer and disk drive, and they permit a further range of visual effects.

Having admitted that words are indeed used in parts of the screen, it must be said that you can in fact

include text in your drawings. Words and numbers are typed in from the keyboard. Text may be typed as normal, bold or extra bold, and for each style you may have italics. This permits six different text effects. Unfortunately the lettering is always the same height, so if you want really giant letters, you have to draw them. The spraycan effect makes adults' writing look like that of a seven-year-old, but seven-year-olds' writing is unchanged. There are techniques for achieving accurate drawings. For example, you can draw circles and rectangles automatically. The software first shows you a temporary shape, which you can

adjust; then when the shape is exactly the right size and in the right place, you press a button to have it drawn permanently. Similarly, when drawing with the pencil, you see a provisional straight line which can be fixed when you have moved it to the right place. Be warned that diagonal lines can sometimes come out a bit wobbly owing to the resolution adopted.

Children can produce an acceptable drawing after only a few minutes' guidance. The two pictures above were done by a seven- and a nine-year-old during their first half hour with the AMX mouse. Further practice is needed to become really good, but children of all ages can produce reasonable figures very quickly.

The range of potential uses is enormous. The drawings might be artistic, or they might be mathematical or scientific diagrams. You can make notices and signs. The image-processing facility is useful. For example, you might be doing a cartoon strip which requires the same background on half a dozen different pictures. The teacher might have drawn a neat map. Pupils can then conjure up a copy of it on the screen and mark it or shade it to meet their own requirements.

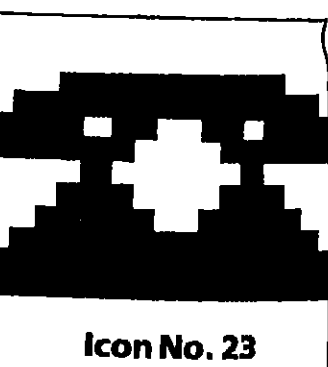
The mouse, and associated software, is very much a tool. Unlike many kinds of educational program, it leaves the pupil very much in charge of the machine, using it to extend his or her own personal skills. Used with common sense and a touch of imagination, the mouse will enable children to work on many topics at a much improved level.

Supplies: The AMX mouse is advertised at £89.95, but many suppliers and L.E.A.s are able to sell it at a substantial

discount. Without VAT a price of £80 to £70 is not untypical. Additional software is also being marketed. AMX is offering utilities which permit rotations, reflections, ellipses and arcs for £14.95, and Watford Electronics are selling a Colour Art program for £13.

Other mice are also on the market, and some schools may be interested in the Marconi RB2 tracker ball, costing around £52 excluding VAT. Rather like an upside-down mouse, the screen is controlled by moving a rotating ball. This is more accurate than a mouse in operation. The art software permits display of exact coordinates, thus assisting with precision. Print-out facilities are not as good as on the AMX mouse, and it does not allow shading, but works in three colours. Techniques for drawing circles, triangles and rectangles are good, and there is graphic software for the more advanced user, which permits better results.

For children's use the AMX mouse has most to offer, but the tracker ball has value for certain types of work and its software is entirely disk based, so it is not restricted to use on one specific machine.



Icon No. 23

notes

DISCOVERING WALES

The National Museum of Wales has just announced a series of guided walks to introduce the countryside's ecology, geology and history to school and family groups. Beginning on Wednesday, May 22, these "Discovering Wales" walks will continue until Saturday, October 19. Visits will include Pontneddfechan, Llandstefan, Quaker's Yard, Ogmore, Aberdulais, Caerwent, Dare Valley, Dinas Island and Briant Lake in South Wales, together with Holyhead mountain and Ewloe castle in North Wales.

The guides are all museum staff, and they advise all intending walkers to wear strong shoes and weatherproof clothing. The walks are offered free of charge; further details are available from the Museum, Park Place, Cardiff (tel: 0222-397951).

IN GOOD FAITH

The Council of Christians and Jews, publishers of the "In Good Faith" slide pack, which was reviewed in the issue of April 26, have now changed address. Copies of the slide pack can be obtained from them at 1 Dennington Park Road, West End Lane, London NW6 1AX.

CRAFTY

"Some Crafty Things to Do" is the title of a new handbook for young people, teachers or youth workers interested in ideas and instructions for craft work. This could be anything from batik to face painting, musical instruments to make a play, or just recipes and games. But all of them emanate from the Third World.

In celebration of International Youth Year, the book also suggests how young people can participate and learn about developments in IYY, for example ideas for street theatre, advice on how to campaign and raise money, or background on the areas the crafts come from.

"Some Crafty Things to Do", a 32-page booklet, is available, price £2.50 + p&p, from Education Materials Clerk, Finance Department, Oxford, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ.

BOOK BUS

The Merseyside Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley has a new library service for schools—a second-hand double-decker bus which has been turned into a "Book Bus". The lower deck has been converted into a library and the top deck is used for workshops for pupils.

The bus visits a school each day and while pupils undertake book-based activities with a librarian, the class teacher is free to choose books. The intention of the scheme is to make children feel more positive about reading and to provide teachers with the time and opportunity to get to know more about children's books.

Further information from Barbara Jones, Principal Children's Librarian, Kirkby Library, Newtown Gardens, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 8RR (tel: 051-5473414).

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Coping with unemployment and improving the chance of finding a job are major themes of a new Open University Community Education pack, "In and Out of Employment".

The project is being funded by the DES and the MSC and is intended to encourage the development of educational opportunities for unemployed adults. The pack, which will comprise 50 four-page topic leaflets and two audio cassettes, is being introduced in sections covering eight different themes. The first of these, on self-assessment, is now available, price £1.25, from the Project Co-ordinator, "In and Out of Unemployment", Community Education, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA.

Victoria Neumark

RESOURCES

Distortion and fidelity

Jessica Saraga on history of art slides

Painting in the Baroque Age III
Northern Baroque: Holland
Master Painters No 20: Picasso II
Slide sets £5.20 each
Compiled and annotated by Anthony Bertram
Visual Publications, 195 Kensington High Street, London W8 6BB.

If history forgot about art, and left it to be rediscovered through VPs *History of Western Art* slide sets, there'd be a pretty representative selection. Faced with these two new additions alone, though, future researchers could be forgiven for doubting that the Dutch 17th century and Picasso from 1922 could really both fit into the mainstream of western art.

Picasso's is an art of distortion. Dutch genre art of fidelity; where Picasso eschews local colour and crowds his subjects up to the picture plane, the Dutch paint theirs in mellow light and subtle, rational space. But it's all exploration of the deployment of paint on canvas, of ways of seeing and ways of feeling.

Dutch genre painting celebrates the mundane ways of the world, agriculture and trade and craft and towns and food. Pre-industrial bourgeois life looks busy and beautiful, at least for some. Cupp's ships lie at anchor and Hobbema's animals graze, and brilliant patchy sun lights up Ruysdael's fields, all under vast and marvellous skies. Close up, people paint food, one of the great Dutch subjects.

T S Eliot said he could show you sorrow in a handful of dust; Pieter Claesz can show you love in the ironed creases of a white tablecloth, cure and content in a fish on a pewter plate and a glass of beer. Anthony Bertram, who calls still life a "very minor art" in his notes, is missing something.

Franz Hals could show you a thing or two as well, though Mr Bertram isn't awfully keen on him either. He turns his figures into our long-lost friends and gives them to us forever caught between blinks. And Vermeer, concentrating on domesticity, humours women and imbues their work with dignity as few men ever have or could, in paint or anything else.

Picasso's women in contrast are monsters, limbs dislocated, breasts bulbous, faces blank or bleak or hostile. The choice of women to express his emotion is as disturbing as the emotion itself. This is the period when Picasso was developing the iconography of anguish which was to culminate in "Guernica" in 1937. The "Crucifixion" of 1930 already displays the taut and tortured forms of painful outcry, in strident blues and yellows instead of "Guernica's" monotone. "Guernica" bullfighting imagery of horror and destruction are pressed too, and then schooled in the "bullfight" of 1956, which shows the final catharsis of the theme, exhausted and tamed into pagament and desire.

Like the Dutch set, the reproductions here are excellent; both sets will be a pleasure and an asset in art history.

Mathematical topics

Chelsea Diagnostic Maths Tests
Kathleen Hart et al
Specimen set £16.95 + VAT
NFER Nelson, Darville House, 2 Oxford Road, East Windsor, Berks SL4 1DF.

What arrived on my desk was a ring-bound Teachers' Guide of some 150 pages, together with 10 test booklets covering different mathematical topics. This was the specimen pack, though it is possible to purchase multiple sets of individual tests separately. Test titles are Algebra, Fractions 1 & 2, Graphs, Measurement, Number Operations, Place-Value and Decimals, Ratio and Proportion, Reflection and Rotation, and Vectors.

Probably the first thing to be said about these tests is that they are now out of date, having initially been constructed to support the CSMs research at Chelsea College begun during 1974. In any other period a 10-year

"mathematical age", identifying individual difficulties, sorting into streams, classes? And how will the results obtained influence our future behaviour as teachers? To be fair to the authors there is an only disclaimer regarding the streaming issue, the pupil (mis)understanding and the informed provision of an appropriate teaching programme. We are told that the tests are designed to "assess the level of understanding of 9-15+ year olds in nine key mathematical topics". But perhaps this is where we should start to question the validity of the exercise.

Two further major reservations are the choice of topics—why two on fractions and none on angles for instance—and the implicit assumption that tests designed for collective research will necessarily be much used for rather

different purposes, such as individual diagnosis. It is easy to be critical of tests—all tests, and these are better than many. Perhaps that is because tests need to be criticized for pretending they do well what the competent teacher can always do better through interactive conversation with pupils—if only he would trust himself and learn to respect his own judgement. Probably the last word should be left to the principal author, who in the final chapter of her earlier book, *Children's Understanding of Mathematics: 11-16* (John Murray, 1981), wrote "If one is to assess the level of understanding of the child and why he is making mistakes there seems to be no alternative but to talk to him."

Simon Relf

Learning through action?



My Land
Published by World Wildlife Fund, in association with Survival International and Learning Through Action.
Price £3.95
World Wildlife Fund, Panda House, 11-13 Godalming Road, Surrey GU7.

I thought at first I was missing some material, but the rather pretentiously entitled "resource pack" consists only of a single book 62 pages long. It is designed to provide information about Australian aborigines on which to base a role play with a group of middle school children.

Unfortunately the chance to contrast ways of seeing the land, which lies at the heart of this project and can provoke excellent classroom drama, is obscured because there is hardly anything relating to the white settlers' viewpoint. At the same time there were some intrusive manifestations of our own culture: the prominent names on a map of the aboriginal tribes are those of the present-day white Australian territories. Surely, too, the important point to make about the eight square miles of land on which an aborigine family finds all its requirements is not that it is large, but the opposite; how many families in the rural Berkshire taken as a comparison find even a tiny proportion of their

goods in a similar area—excluding the women at Greenham Common?

There are some interesting items: a diagram of the internal aborigine trade routes, extending all over Australia, a brief summary of "dreamtime", and a few legends including a "song-man". The main emphasis is on practical activities such as fishing, hunting and food-gathering, though there is an attempt to sketch social relationships and cultural background, and to describe the scandalous story of disinheritance, disease and demoralization which started with Captain Cook. It is a fascinating subject, though this somewhat prosaic interpretation left me largely unsatisfied. I hope teachers will look to the stimulating material recommended in the bibliography.

I am more impressed by teaching materials which place more significance on authenticity than the hazy improvisations suggested here. By all means experiment with a *didjeridu* made out of cardboard or plastic pipe, but wouldn't it also be good to give the children an idea of its sound, played by a skilled aborigine? The role play scenario itself is complicated and top-heavy on teacher direction with few points at which the children can use their imagination. Despite being called Learning Through Action, it is essentially a passive response which is demanded from them.

Francesca Greenoak

Trunk line

Great Western 150 Rail Resource Pack
Free to schools
Regional Public Affairs Manager, British Rail Western, 125 House, 1 Gloucester Street, Swindon SN1.

In August 1835 Royal Assent was granted to a Bill proposing a trunk line between London and Bristol. God's Wonderful Railway came into being and grew eventually into the Great Way Round. This year celebrates the 150th anniversary.

British Rail have produced a series of resource packs tracing the history and varied services of the GWR and the Western Region up till the present. These are tailored each to a particular area—South Wales, Thames Valley, Severn and the West Country. The bulk of the pack comprises 32 A2 sheets of photographs, maps, cartoons and engravings. These are accompanied by a good and suggestive set of notes for teachers.

The package is filled with truly marvellous material—particularly on the engineering genius Brunel's original, broad-gauge line. However, it concentrates very much on the railway and its working and not on the wider social effects of rapid travel.

Barrington Jones

Plug in

Plugtop power supplies
£10.90, £11.90, £12.90 + VAT
Arice (I for E) Ltd, Salewheel House, Preston, Lancs PR3 3XU.

These items are intended as cheap, safe power supplies for use in micro-electronics teaching. I have only seen the model described as 5V DC 1A unregulated, but smoothed and regulated versions come at the higher prices shown.

The unit consists of a transformer and fuse built into a white 13A plugtop from which comes a flex terminating in a 2.5mm jack plug. This plug fits into a box carrying two terminals from which the final output is taken. I presume that the smoothed and regulated versions simply use different final boxes.

I regret that I cannot recommend this initially attractive product for a number of reasons. The plugtop unit is labelled "Output DC 6V 1A". It actually gave me 20V AC 50Hz on open circuit and 15V under load (a 5 ohm resistor which got very hot). The unit is described as "fused", but is completely sealed and I can see no way, short of drilling, to change a blown fuse. The arrangement of the two parts, together with the misleading labelling, may tempt some users to plug the jack directly into a calculator or similar device. The final output was 7.5V peak 100Hz sine wave DC under load although the smoothed versions may be better.

Overall, the idea is a good one but the design should include smoothing and regulation as a matter of course, replaceable fuse, proper labelling, and a one-unit rather than a two-unit construction.

Alan Vincent

THE AGENCY OF EVE
743,528
£4,450

MILTON
3,288,228
£10,400

BOOTE
3,365,293
£28,060

HOWE YOU
4,170,909
£23,562

What's in a brand name?

Mike Clarke reviews a teaching pack on advertising

Brand X Game
Teaching pack including posters, information sheets and notes for teachers and players
Price £7
Scottish Council for Educational Technology, 74 Victoria Crescent Road, Glasgow G12 9JN.

Devising a marketing strategy and sample advertisements for a new product has been one of the staple activities in Media Studies and English courses for some time. *Brand X* offers a helpful structure for these exercises, which will be particularly appreciated by teachers new to the field. The pack also makes available useful background facts in the form of posters and photographic "raw materials" for students to use in making their own advertisements.

Brand X is the latest resource to

emerge from the recent explosion of interest in media education in Scotland. This pack results from a collaboration between SESAME (South East Scotland Association for Media Education) and the Media Education Development Project based at SCET. The success and productivity of these organizations demonstrate what can be achieved when the energy and commitment of people involved are supported by public funds, in this case the Scottish Education Department.

The *Brand X* materials were, apparently, successfully tested in a rough form in schools in the Lothian Region. Perhaps the "New, Improved" glossy version ought also to appear to be one small difficulty involved in using it. This concerns the figures and backgrounds from which students are to construct their advertisements, which are presented as A2 size photographic masters: an excellent idea except that standard, heavily-

used school photocopyers rarely reproduce photographs adequately and often cannot cope with originals larger than A4. Perhaps the producers of *Brand X* ought to have taken a leaf out of the ILEA English Centre's book (or resource pack) and provided class sets of these materials, as the comparable newspaper simulation, *Choosing the News*, does.

However, there is no doubt that *Brand X* will be widely welcomed, not least for its handy presentation of circulation figures and advertising rates for 11 well-known newspapers and magazines (only two of which are Scottish); readership breakdowns by age, gender and social class are also provided. Future work on advertising will benefit greatly from having a basis of hard information of this kind. Inventive media teachers will also be stimulated towards the development of their own resources by other ingredients of the pack. At only £7, who can afford to be without *Brand X*?



Eye openers

Hugh David talks to Naomi Sargent about 'true educational back-up' at Channel 4

Denver, Colorado: staring at the Rockies while working on a project to beam television to isolated Indian communities, Naomi Sargent asked herself: "What happens if it works?". She is still asking the same question in her job as Commissioning Editor for Educational Programmes at Channel 4 in London, England.

However, unfashionable it sounds, television has a responsibility to the viewer, she says. It has the ability to expand his or her outlook and make available "an array of richness". But with educational programmes that must be merely the first stage. If the programmes are successful - if they work - there must be some provision made for viewers who want to go further.

Thus far the thinking is hardly revolutionary. Ever since *Civilisation* there have been books associated with "educational" series as varied as *Life on Earth* and Granada's new Channel 4 blockbuster *Empire*. They take the interested viewer further and can be much more than just swanky, coffee-table volumes. The

National Book League describes *End of Empire* (Granada, £14.95), written by the series' executive producer Brian Lapping, as "the broadest survey yet written on the end of the British Empire". Similarly, an academic reviewer of *In Search of the Trojan War* (BBC Publications, £10.95) concluded that Michael Wood's companion to his BBC2 series was "a remarkably effective synthesis of the present state of knowledge and speculation on the Trojan question".

But merely producing an accompanying book, however high its standard, is not what Naomi Sargent at Channel 4 calls true educational back-up. Drawing on her past experience with the Open University, perhaps, she has developed custom-made educational packages to accompany several programmes. Presenter Janice Robinson has produced a set of taping notes on all the major wine regions she covers in the second series of *The Wine Programme* (which is itself a "more advanced" follow-up to the first). More enterprisingly - and in answer to criticism of the concept of a series about wine which viewers were

unable to taste - Channel 4 has linked up with the Victoria Wine Company to produce a mixed case of wines broadly representative of those featured in the new series.

Even that, however, is only playing at serious follow-up - a sort of dining-room alternative to the coffee-table book - when compared with the detailed schemes which Channel 4 has developed elsewhere. In both *A Question of Economics* and the recent history of Wales, *The Dragon Has Two Tongues*, the television programmes themselves were only elements in much wider educational projects.

Superficially similar, Ms Sargent nevertheless makes a distinction between the approaches of the two series. *A Question of Economics* is a "systematic educational experiment", she says, in which the programmes (made by Yorkshire Television) and an accompanying textbook (Penguin, £4.95) are being backed up by courses in colleges of further education and adult education centres. There is also a home-study course produced by the National Extension College, while students receiving certification for "Making Sense of Economics", a related short course run by the Business and Technical Education Council, will find that it can contribute to the award of the BTEC Certificate in Business Administration.

But such highly-structured learning schemes will always be a rarity on television outside Open University programming. Naomi Sargent believes, not because of any weakness in television as an educational medium but simply because their "academic" approach is not what the general audience desires. "The majority of series do not aim to provide cumulative, sequential subject matter," she says of the 30-odd for which she has been responsible in the past year. "They aim to encourage, stimulate, open the eyes and increase the curiosity in viewers who are then offered ways of pursuing these stimuli if they wish."

The Dragon Has Two Tongues offers the best model of this "unstructured" (as against "academic") follow-up. The whole package, in fact, put together by Harlech Television who produced the programmes) is one of the most significant innovations in television learning to have been seen in this country, although its originality

was rather overlooked in the mixed critical response to its on-screen impact.

"Our aim is to turn viewers into active participants in the search for an understanding of our past," said producer Colin Thomas when the series started in January this year. To do this the programmes were supported by specially-established community-based "viewing groups". Each was provided with a range of original source documents and other support material, jointly produced by ITV and the Gwynedd Archive Service, as well as four detailed and well-produced information packs (which were also available to individual viewers). There was no course as such, and no examination: home viewers and members of the viewing groups were allowed - and indeed expected - to come to their own conclusions about the intentionally contradictory programmes.

This open-ended response was crucial. In addition to giving a history of Wales (and functioning as a logical follow-up to Channel 4's previous history of Scotland), the series also set out to examine the nature of history itself, as producer Colin Thomas's comments suggest. That was the thinking behind its controversial use of two bickering presenters, the Marxist historian Gwyn A. Williams and the conservative traditionalist Wynford Vaughan Thomas.

Thus, viewers were able to take from it elements appropriate to their own level of interest. It tried to cater for the needs of the casual viewer, the Celt, the historian and the historiographer. In this, *The Dragon Has Two Tongues* perhaps comes closest to the ideal of educational television which Naomi Sargent is loathe to define, except by example. Although the series had its faults (as critics in this and other papers were quick to point out), it may well be as an innovative and experimental piece of community education rather than as just another television series that it will be remembered.

As yet it is too early to judge; the television series ended only at Easter and the evaluation process, centred around Ms Sargent's office at Channel 4 has only just begun. Did it work? Will be among the first questions asked. Whether it did or not, the second will be: What happens now?

briefings radio & For schools

ZIG ZAG
(Mon 11.00, Wed, 14.40, BBC2)
A unit on "Renewable Energy" encourages eight and nine-year-olds to look at ways in which the wind, the sea and the sun have been used as sources of energy in the past and moves on to show recent developments in energy production.

HALLO WIE GEHT'S?
NB (Monday-Friday, 00.30 VHF4)
Third level German programmes presented in modular form and keeping to a restricted vocabulary. The general theme is holidays and leisure.

GERMAN II: GRADED OBJECTIVES
NB (Monday-Friday, 01.00 VHF4)
Listening material designed for use with most GOALS programmes but also valuable for following a more traditional course.

MATHS AT WORK
(Tues, 9.48, Wed, 10.15, BBC2)
The last in this series of case studies, young people applying mathematical skills to their jobs. Shows 14 to 17-year-olds students, a trainee surveyor and forester and an apprentice sheet metal worker and mechanical engineer.

FAMILY AFFAIRS
(Tuesday, 10.37 ITV)
"Two's Company, Three's a Family" continues preparation for parenthood by studying the effects on a young couple's relationship of the arrival of a baby.

WAYS WITH WORDS
(Tuesday, 11.32 ITV)
Gyles Brandreth shares the fun and fascination of words with a group of eight and nine-year-olds. They search for the longest word, the commonest letter and the shortest place name in "Word Record".

SEEING AND DOING
(Thursday, 10.06 ITV)
"Folk Dancing" investigates the customs and rituals associated with British regional dances. Six to seven-year-olds see the enjoyment of maypole dancing on the village green.

NEAR AND FAR
(Thursday, 11.05 BBC2)
"Exploring the Rhine" concentrates on the area between Bonn and Bingen as seen by tourists on a river cruise. Nine to 11-year-olds learn the importance of tourism and the wine industry to the region.

WAVELENGTH
(Thursday, 11.30 VHF4)
An investigation of the efforts of bands and building societies to get a foothold in schools.

Continuing education
CIVILIZATION AND THE JEWS
(Sunday, 19.15 C4)
A nine-part history of the Jewish nation and their interaction with successive western civilizations. Abba Eban presents the series which shows the way the Jews have influenced the character of the people with whom they are in contact.

THE REAL WORLD
(Monday, 19.00 ITV)
Michael Rodd and Sue Jay host another series with the emphasis on how science is going to affect people's lives. An educational pack is available from TVS and programme themes include the science of fertility, the materials of the future and the new television set.

Documentary techniques

SCHOOLS TELEVISION
Middle English: The Sinclair Solution and You Don't Have to Use Words
Thames TV
May 16 and 23 (Broadcast Thursdays, repeated Fridays).

These are two valuable new additions to this series of short English-based programmes for 9 to 12-year-olds. *The Sinclair Solution* is an excellent example of how Schools Television can use "adult" documentary techniques and production values to provide children with stimulating material without a shadow of condescension.

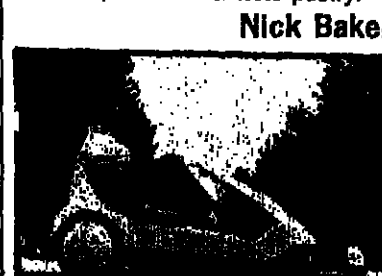
"It's the sort of vehicle you'd use to go to the shops or to school in," says Sir Clive Sinclair about his CS electric tricycle, the subject of *The Sinclair Solution*. If Sir Clive was after a bit of useful free publicity for this controversial vehicle, he was out of luck. The testers, who included an AA man, an experienced cyclist and some teenage pupils, were almost unanimous in their condemnation of the CS, on safety grounds. "You look a bit of a wally in it," added one youngster for good measure.

The programme features some interesting footage of some of the CS's predecessors: electric cars, antediluvian six-wheeled oddities and rocket-propelled vehicles. It also gives a clear account of the design process of the CS, dealing simply and informatively with terms like centre of gravity and wind resistance. At the end, there's room for Sir Clive to indulge in a bit of star gazing. He predicts a future when all cars will be powered by electricity and speculates on the feasibility of electric aircraft.

What's to be achieved in this programme is that teachers can use it for a variety of different purposes. It could introduce work on anything from creatively imagined worlds of the future to discussions on road safety. It might also be used to good effect in a science lesson.

You Don't Have to Use Words features a dance sequence performed by Phoenix Dance Group, who are based at Harehills Middle School in Leeds. Harehills is justly celebrated for the excellent work it does in the area of dance and movement and the sequence performed for *Middle English* shows the high quality of the work there. Entitled *The Dark is Rising* (after Susan Cooper's book of the same name), it depicts the dramatic good-and-evil struggle between five children and some evil monsters. There are no dressed-up dragons to be seen - everything is expressed through dance in a variety of styles from hip-hop and body popping to what used to be called "modern". Paradoxically, "modern" seems a bit quaint in comparison to the energetic acrobatics of hip-hop.

The suggestions for follow-up work are a bit more limited here, as it's unlikely that English teachers will have the skills or the space to get their classes boogying on down. All the same, if it encourages an interest in dance so much the better. What the programme could be used for is for non-verbal communication, which could entail mime, the creation of strip cartoons, or even concrete poetry.



Nick Baker

Think global, act local

Worldwide - The Longest Running Show on Earth
Channel 4, Sunday May 26.

Whenever asked if York Minster was struck by lightning on account of the Bishop of Durham, our view vigorously agreed it was - because nobody was listening to him, he said. Did the fact that one more cameraman was twice struck by lightning in a sudden piece of Norfolk reinforce the conservation message, I wonder? Sunday evening's environmental marathon certainly required a *deus ex machina*. The exaggerated brightness of the studio presenters seemed to become increasingly out of place as the four hours wore on, and their companions out in the field not only got wetter and wetter, but became difficult to make out in the murky dusk. I salute those hard-core field-workers, digging, dredging, dry-stone walling, their uncomfortable plight captured by the five outside broadcast teams.

It is difficult to abstract the show from the weather which became the most interesting protagonist, and to judge it for itself. It seems that the programme makers started from the premise that conservation work is pretty boring, and needs artificial stimulation. Consequently, everything

was presented with a kind of breathless excitement. Nobody much on the outside broadcast spoke for themselves. When real voices were heard on the pre-filmed items, it was good. There were several small high standard film stories of the kind you might get on *Blue Peter*: about single Gloucester cheese made from the milk of a breed of nearly extinct cattle; about dedicated craftspeople renovating windmills, tapestry and books with great skill, or putting their all into restoring a medieval Welsh castle.

I can't say I was much taken by the pop characters who were obligingly winsome, ranting or opinionated according to their nature, offered home spun philosophy and did a party piece, though there were some great moments.

Katherine Hammett's slogan, "Think Global, Act Local", came nearest to catching the true spirit of conservation. Its active heart is in your own territory, the arterial ramification spread far abroad as awareness grows. At some stage, this programme might have recognized that - it was after all trying to give us an impression of local projects all over Britain, but somewhere along the line the point got clouded, that clear note of personal commitment went flat, and hype prevailed. Francesca Greenoak

4 LICENSED OFF-AIR RECORDING

Titles Available For Recording From Sunday 2nd June, 1985

Approximate Transmission Times

Sunday 2nd June
5.00pm Back To The Roots: From The Wild Fire Code B
5.30pm The Best of the Programme For Code F

Tuesday 4th June
5.00pm Years Ahead: Complications For Code B
5.30pm Years Ahead: Complications For Code B

Wednesday 5th June
6.00pm Landscapes & Legends: The Meeting Of Rivers: Part 1 For Code B
8.00pm Landscapes & Legends: The Meeting Of Rivers: Part 2 For Code B

5.30pm Divine Reports For Code B
11.00pm Voices: The New Cold War For Code B

Friday 7th June
7.30pm Right To Reply For Code A
8.15pm A Week In Politics For Code B
10.30pm Who Cares? Health Care - Rights or Privilege? For Code B

QUILT LICENSING
6 Royce Road, Peterborough PE1 5YB
(0735) 318318
Late Changes (0735) 312152

HEALTH EDUCATION

Beyond sex and safety

Philippa Davidson on current initiatives in London primary schools

How does this aspect work in practice? In a predominantly Afro Caribbean infant class at Baden Powell School, Hackney, racism was unlikely to be a problem. Not so sex stereotyping. In the ever popular hospital project it was difficult to restrain the girls from being mothers with new born babies, though fortunately at this age nobody was interested in enacting the labour ward. Although one boy refused to remove his white doctor's coat another was just as happy taking the passive role of the patient, having his measles/mumps/broken leg attended to. If I was tempted to think that this was just another game of doctors and nurses I was soon convinced that these children took their hospital very seriously indeed. (They had, said their teacher Sue Barker, refused all attempts to replace the hospital corner with something more appropriate for the summer term.) No one was allowed to eat the sweets (tablets) put out for the patients and failure to sterilize the syringe before use incurred the sternest rebuke. The mock inspection never occurred when I played hospitals, nor do I remember oral hygiene being so important that having a tooth that needed a filling caused the owner of the supposedly decayed molar to burst into tears.

In the top forms of the junior school

a health topic such as drugs, smoking or alcohol forms the ideal first step towards the objective of getting children to make informed decisions about life's important issues. "Children already make decisions affecting their health. Classroom experiences can increase the child's awareness and extend his or her decision-making skills" (ILEA Health Education Guidelines). The particular content of any course will naturally be determined by factors such as the age, cultural and religious background of the children. Alcohol, for example, is not an issue for children who follow a religion which bans alcohol. Mrs Shaw, herself a smoker, starts off the

smoking debate by asking the children "Do you want to turn out like me?" "No... o' they all chorus. When it comes to food choices most primaries are trying to influence pupils by insisting on a no sweets on the premises policy. Ultimately, however, teachers have a choice in whether they influence children's decisions or present them with the facts that will enable them to make up their own minds.

Food is of course one facet of health education, which, like sex education, has traditionally been the responsibility of the home. It follows that if a school is to pursue a meaningful health policy cooperation from parents is essential. At Boxgrove, with its high proportion of gipsy children, Mrs Shaw has some minor difficulties with parents whose way of life has for centuries led them to believe that a child is only healthy if he or she is fat. Most schools reported unanimous support from parents for their initiatives, and in many areas workshops involving parents are being organized. Regularly

continued

Puberty and menstruation are subjects schoolgirls want a text-book knowledge on. But although they're keen to learn, you can't always help them as much as you'd like. So to help you plan your syllabus most effectively, the Tampax Education pack includes a teaching guide. It's full of physiological and practical information providing useful discussion points. Also included in the pack are educational booklets suited to the girls age, together with free samples and a handbag container each.

The Tampax Lecture Service is also available and employs a team of 15 fully qualified nurses who tour the country visiting over 2,000 schools a year. They deal with all the various aspects of menstruation in a way tailor-made to suit the age and size of your class. The whole service is the most comprehensive and experienced available as well as being completely free. All it will cost is your time spent filling in the coupon.

Two ways for you to help your girls learn all about menstruation.



Name _____
Address _____
School dept. _____

Please send for sample Education pack and information on Lecture Service to Marion Bruce, S.R.N., S.C.M. FREEPOST, Tampax Education Service, Tambrands Ltd., Dunsbury Way, Havant, Hants. PO9 5BR. **TAMPAX** EDUCATION SERVICE



Beyond sex and safety

continued

lar contact with the school reassures parents that their own social, moral, ethnic and religious values are understood, and goes some way towards dispelling myths created by the popular press that glue sniffing and precocious sex are rife among nine-year-olds. Not that there is any attempt to avoid controversial issues with top juniors. Most children said they would not smoke, drink or sniff glue although they all knew older children who did. What happens to these firm resolvers once the children reach secondary school and social and economic pressures are brought to bear? No one has done a survey. But there is certainly no proof that introducing these subjects at an early age encourages children to take up the habits later on.

Perhaps the biggest obstacle that health education in the primary school has to face is the criticism that it encourages neglect of basic subjects. The Guidelines state that "health-related concepts can be developed through the work that children are already doing in the curriculum". In a school such as London Fields Primary, which has a definite policy for integrating health education into the work teachers are already doing, basic subjects are less likely to suffer. Jane Bramhill, who has special responsibility for health education at the school, integrates the appropriate concepts into the curriculum after consultation

with the various class teachers. The topic "Myself" produced a huge display of pictorial and written work on personal likes and dislikes, clothes, friends, shopping habits, location of local markets and so on. The problem here seemed to be not so much neglect of skills as a dispiriting uniformity of choices, interests and aspirations that betrayed only too clearly a deprived community. "Bethnal Green is a world apart for our children" said Jane. "There's no point in going further afield because it doesn't mean anything to them." Another classroom was festooned with baby clothes, a display arising from a discussion about "when we were babies" that had been sparked off by the television programme *Living and Growing* (the same series had also been the starting point for the preliminaries of sex education with lower juniors). Jane's contribution to a project on jobs of work will be "safety at work", which might lead on naturally to health and safety in school. There is a deliberate policy not to stray too far from anything that is outside the child's experience. It is interesting to note that even in an outer suburban school such as Boxgrove, Abbey Wood, where the Klu-bound tourists were encouraged to use their imagination, reality was never far away. The prawn cocktail, steak and a well-rehearsed special meal and it must be admitted that Gary and Richard were much keener to tell me about the school trip to the Isle of Wight in a real boat than to indulge in the fantasy game.

Visitors to the classroom are a good way of widening horizons and counter-

acting the sterility that could result from an approach based exclusively on the child and his or her immediate environment. It isn't always the visitor that does the talking. When Mrs Clay visited Baden Powell Infants it was the children who tested her reflexes! Role playing is just one of the important processes that a health education policy can encourage. And since most primary education is about process, the variety of approaches - small group discussion, investigation, role play to name but a few - must be regarded, thinks Jane Bramhill, as the subject's most important contribution to the curriculum.

The new ILEA Guidelines provide a framework around which teachers can start introducing a health concept into all areas of the curriculum. They include a useful checklist of basic principles against which teachers can measure what they already do against current strategies. "The difference now", says Jill Clay, "is that the part played by health education must be central to the whole curriculum. It's not just sex and safety. The exploration of health themes can contribute to other work." It remains to be seen whether these new initiatives will result in a generation of children better able to make informed decisions. Will they be able to resist the temptations of drinking, smoking and drug abuse? If health education helps them to make only one decision in their lives it will have achieved something. Finally, if the children I talked to so articulate and polite with me, and above all so caring and considerate with one another, then it gets my vote as a core subject, any time.

Knowing where to stop

All About Health. By Dorothy Baldwin. Oxford University Press £1.75. 0 19 832719 6.
Here's Health. By Joanna Howard. Oxford University Press. £2.75. 0 19 832717 X.
Minding Out . . . About Drinking and Driving. 37p from: Alison Person, CRAC Publications, Hobsons Ltd, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ. 0 86021 560 1.

All About Health is a remarkably successful attempt to cover all aspects of health for adolescents in 176 pages. It is particularly impressive in its explanations of mental, as well as physical health. The material is well presented, each of the five chapters being divided into double page units ending with lists of questions which sometimes seem to demand more knowledge than the text offers. The illustrations are excellent and refreshingly up to date. The author assumes nothing: even relatively simple words are explained in brackets after their use, such as "insecure (not sure of yourself)", "influenza (flu)" or "sexual intercourse (love making)". Though the information on personal hygiene is clear and straightforward, I wonder if I am exposing my own poor habits by failing to know how to cope with the following - "People may have uneven hygiene . . . they may wash their face carefully, but forget to clean their nose." Is blowing it not enough?

Unfortunately, in the otherwise excellent mental health section, Dorothy Baldwin does present some confused understanding, in for example the difference between reflex and instinct. An eye blink is not an instinct, nor is dropping a hot plate. Although her distinction between intelligence and emotion is very welcome, I can't imagine that any psychologist could accept that "will power, self control, judgement and stamina" are a part of general intelligence. Rather, they are behaviours which can affect learning: not quite the same thing.

The author writes with courage and value about drug taking, emotional relationships and sex for teenagers, putting a well-shod foot into fields that others are loathe to tread, such as morality. She points out that 12,000 girls under 16 become pregnant each year, though her advice on how to stop it might not quite stem the tide - "wait until you are ready to give your heart and mind as well". However, her young readers can sneak a comprehen-

sive preview of contraceptives in the family planning section for young marrieds, and thus avoid Gillick con-

sure. It is a particular problem in writing about health education to know where to stop. Every aspect of human life is important. Baldwin's end-of-book brief extras on old age, first aid and environment, don't quite fit, whereas Joanna Howard manages to include them in the general text quite naturally.

Both authors are very keen to suggest discussions for discussion, but Howard's are livelier, and being placed within the text, rather than appearing as set exercises at the end of a section, are more obviously relevant and immediate.

The approach in *Here's Health* is novel and engaging, with current concerns about such matters as food additives, the sources of the foods we eat, and a relevant look at the environment, integrated with everyday life. Howard includes some social, as well as individual psychology. Not only does she list the safety features of a house, for example, but asks the reader to look at the differences between a house and a home, or to look at the messages we give in the clothes we wear.

It is particularly good as an engaging workbook. There are plenty of anecdotes about people in the situations described, which gives the text a new feel, like talking about people you know and putting yourself in their place. Material on living with other people, and the discussion on drugs and brain damage, are notably good in this respect.

Drinking and Driving, produced by CRAC, provides information and more discussion material for students of CSE Biology and General Studies, and has been written by teachers after a series of "field tests" and seminars. What do they mean by field tests?

Though it is a brightly coloured presentation, the illustrations seemed to be jumbled and lacking in clarity. It would have been better were they instantly comprehensible, without having to find the appropriate bit of text. As the subject of drinking and driving is of such immense importance, and the booklet is within most schools' price range, it would provide adequate information for discussion. But I do hope that someone will soon provide another text with greater impact - if that's the right word in this context.

Joan Freeman

WHO'S HANDLING DRUGS IN YOUR SCHOOL?

There has undoubtedly been a proliferation of drug misuse especially among young people in recent years. This has been matched by a growing public concern about drugs and a demand that something should be done about it. A survey commissioned by the Scottish Health Education Group confirmed this very high level of concern among both parents and young people. In fact, about

70% thought drugs were second only to unemployment as the most serious problem facing Scots to-day.

The Scottish Health Education Group is tackling the problem through a public education campaign. It will touch everyone in Scotland and will interest teachers in schools and colleges.

Television commercials taking a "life skills" approach will stress self achievement and positive options to drug taking.

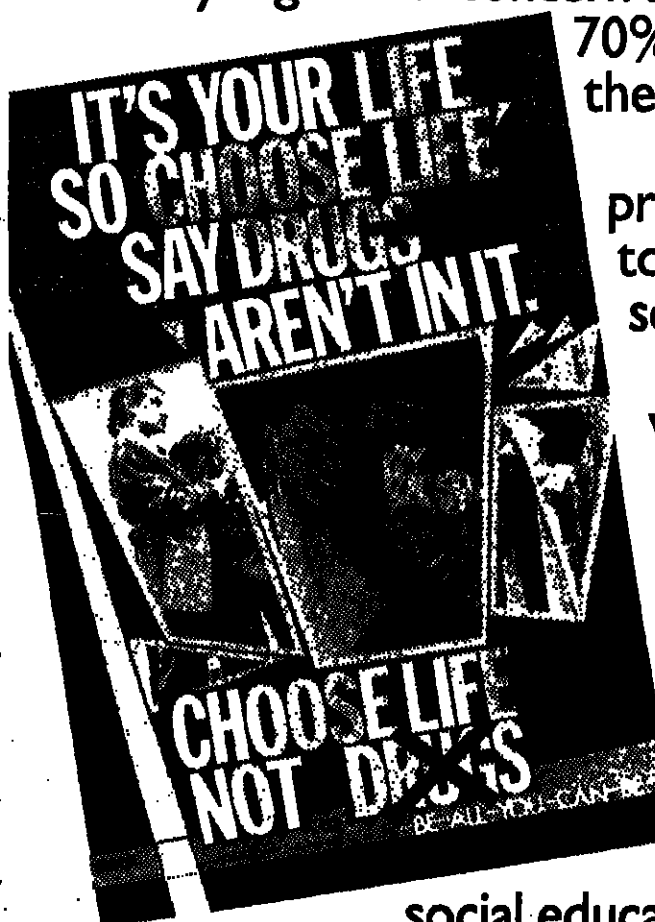
'Family Matters' is a magazine insert which will be issued free through popular magazines and TV and Radio Times from mid-April. It will encourage within the home, discussion about drugs—but it is also suitable for use in health and social education programmes in the classroom.

"Drugs and Young People in Scotland" is a booklet for concerned professional and voluntary workers. It provides the factual background to drugs and suggests strategies for drug education to teachers and community educators.

"Drug Abuse—a register of helping agencies" gives details of the different statutory and voluntary groups in Scotland who can give information, counselling and treatment.

For further information, advice and copies of these publications contact your local Health Board Health Education Department.

Issued by The Scottish Health Education Group, Woodburn House, Canaan Lane, Edinburgh EH10 4SG.



FAMILY MATTERS



DRUGS AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND

DRUG ABUSE

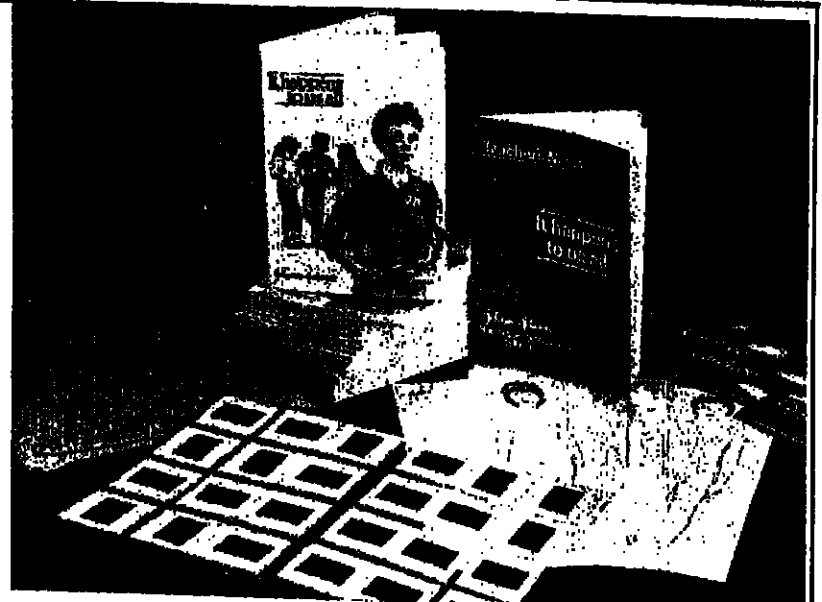
A REGISTER OF HELPING AGENCIES

It happens to us all

Johnson & Johnson have produced a new illustrated teaching kit 'It Happens To Us All'. The kit deals with puberty in boys and girls and fills a crucial gap in teaching aids - being designed for mixed classes and aimed at the 10+ age group. It prepares the way for further information without dealing with sex itself.

Today girls can start menstruating by the age of 10 years. To be fully prepared girls should be taught in the last year of primary school, or the first year of secondary school. Boys, too, need to understand girls' development and to be prepared for their own.

'It Happens To Us All' costs £9.50 inc. p & p and VAT. The kit comprises: 24 slides; Teacher's Notes with cassette tape slide commentary plus extensive suggestions for linked lessons; 25 full colour pupil's booklets; 30 class work sheets; 25 samples of Johnson & Johnson's Vespine and Carefree products.



As a teacher you will understand how important it is that children see physical development as a normal part of their life cycle. 'It Happens To Us All' fulfils this task.

The kit is available on free approval.

Johnson & Johnson
SCHOOLS INFORMATION SERVICE

To: Johnson & Johnson, Schools Information Service, Dept. 1E, PO Box 3, Daresbury, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 6AL.
Please send me one copy of 'It Happens To Us All'. I enclose the purchase price of £9.50 inc. p & p and VAT. Please make cheque payable to Johnson & Johnson.
I should like the kit on free approval and agree to return it within 14 days if not required (product samples can be retained).

Name _____
Address _____

Girl talk

There are a number of proprietary aids to health education, especially in the field of child development. All have a natural inclination to favour their own products, but generally it would be hard to accuse them of an over-zealous sales pitch and, used selectively, they can be a valuable supplement to teaching materials on puberty.

This is particularly true in the case of Tampax, who offer a complete "education service", the keystone of which is a team of SRN-qualified lecturers who will visit schools to give talks on puberty to groups of third and fourth year girls as well as younger classes. The slide-lectures, which are tailored to suit the needs of particular age and ability groups, include such topics as female anatomy and physiology, the menstrual cycle, hygiene and a discussion of the different forms of sanitary protection. A question and answer session with a qualified and sympathetic outsider is often the best way to overcome any inhibitions that may be felt on the part of the teacher or pupils and can be especially helpful to the non-specialist teacher.

Accompanying literature includes a teacher's guide with clear, well-labelled diagrams of the female reproductive organs and the menstrual cycle, which could easily be adapted for use with an overhead projector. Three separate booklets addressed to 10 to 11-year-old pre-pubertal girls, to girls who have started to menstruate and to



mothers of daughters approaching menstrual age are also available. The first, *Talking about You*, wraps up the facts in a chatty narrative. *Time for Answers* is an informative and straightforward question and answer booklet. The booklet for mothers addresses itself to the more personal and emotional problems that can arise in early puberty.

Full details of the School Lecture Service and Tampax educational literature are available from The Education Department, Tambrands Ltd, Freeport, Dunsbury Way, Havant, Hampshire.

Mary Crickshank

مكتبة من الأصل

On the bottle

Gill Combes on a study of slow learners and their drinking experiences

Children gather around groups of bottles on classroom desks. Lisa picks up the whisky bottle and tells excitedly about how her aunt gets drunk at Christmas. Paul points to the bottle of wine and says he tasted some once at a wedding. John's never had any of "that stuff" because his parents won't let him. Sarah has shandy every week at the club.

Bottles of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks in the classroom will excite many a group of children, but it's probably an unusual start for a lesson. Such a start will certainly command children's attention, and once the excitement has died down, sorting the bottles and talking about them is a useful focus for a lesson on alcohol and drinking.

The idea originally comes from a study in Scotland, where Jahoda and Crammond used assorted bottles of drink to see whether young children knew the difference between alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. More recently, I have used bottles of drinks in a similar way as part of a study of the drinking experiences of a group of slow learners, aged 9-16. The ways in which these children responded to the bottles have generated ideas for classroom activities, which will be equally useful for primary and lower secondary children of all abilities.

In the picture, a boy is sorting eight bottles into two different groups: he chose to sort them into alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Most children sorted the bottles in this way, although they were not aware of my interest in alcohol at that stage. They then explained how their two groups of bottles were different from one another. The quotes below demonstrate that alcoholic drinks are perceived by children in many different ways. They also show how such a simple activity can generate discussion about many different aspects of alcohol and drinking. For some quotes it is not immediately obvious which group of drinks the child is referring to: in such a case, an

(a) has been inserted for alcoholic drinks and (na) for non-alcoholic drinks.

Two-thirds of the children described the difference between their two groups of bottles in terms of the contents. General words such as "booze", "liquor" and "drinks" were used to describe the alcoholic drinks: "That's booze, and that isn't." "That's drinks, and that's not drink."

A good number used the name of one specific drink to refer to alcoholic drinks in general.

"They are all beers."

"They are wines and spirits and things."

"These are pops, and those (a) are shandies."

Very few children used the word "alcohol".

"They've got alcohol in, and they haven't."



"That's all like alcoholic, and that's all plain stuff."

The rest talked about some of the social aspects of drinking to describe the differences between alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. For certain children, the place, the occasion and the time of day were important:

"They are drinks you can drink all the time (na), and then you can't - only at the pub."

"That's stuff you can drink in the daytime (na), and that you can't drink in the day."

Some children saw the difference between alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks as a matter of who was allowed to have which drinks:

"You (children) can drink them (na), but they are alcohol."

"Children aren't supposed to drink them (a), and children can drink them."

"They are what my Dad likes (na), and then they are fizzy drinks."

"I can't drink them (a) 'cos I'm too young, but I can drink them (na)."

Then there were those who talked about the tastes and effects of alcoholic drinks:

"They are strong drinks (a), and these are what anyone can drink."

"They're stronger and taste better (a), and they're fizzy (na)."

"These are what anyone can drink (na), they're harmless, and these (a) are what you can get drunk on."

Only a few children distinguished alcoholic drinks in terms of their own preferences or judgements about alcohol:

"They're not good for you (a), and then they are (na)."

"That's all wine, and that's all sappy stuff (na)."

"I don't like these (a); and I like these (na)."

Lastly, the cost of drinks was mentioned by some:

"They are dear (a), and then they are cheap (na)."

These then, are just some of the topics around drinking which can arise from a relatively simple activity such as sorting bottles, and no doubt there are many more. In my experience, once the bottles are on the table, there seems to be no end to the curiosity and talk they provoke with most children.

In the classroom, you might like children to work in small groups for sorting the bottles, or to have one set of bottles on the front desk. The bottles can also be used as the focus for further discussion, about the relative strengths of drinks, about the different drinks children have tasted and those they know the names of. If the presence of alcoholic drinks in the classroom causes alarm among fellow teachers, substitute contents can be easily provided with a little imagination: for example, cold tea put into an empty whisky bottle looks very like the real thing.

Finally, an important point highlighted by this activity is the variety of terms which children use to describe alcoholic drinks and drinkers. In my experience, the word "alcohol" is not commonly used by children. Less than half the children I talked to had heard the word before, and even those who had preferred to use words like "booze" or "drinks". It is therefore worth repeating how important it is to find out and use those terms which children themselves use and are familiar with.

Even so, misunderstandings over terms can still arise, because words like "drinks" and "drinking" and "drunk" are imprecise and used by different people in different ways. This variation in meaning was brought home to me by some children, for whom there was a clear distinction between being a

"drinker" and having an alcoholic drink just occasionally. For them, the word "drinker" implied regularly:

"I don't drink - just a pint at Christmas. I have a Guinness when I'm feeling a little bit bad (ill)."

"I don't drink - I have a Guinness sometimes, but I don't drink."

Other children clearly made a distinction between different types of alcoholic drinks, so that it was alright to drink some, but other drinks were the ones which made a person a "drinker".

"I have a shandy sometimes, but it's not really drink - I don't drink."

The value of an activity like bottle-sorting lies in allowing children to say the agenda, to talk about the topics from their own experience and their own points of interest. In the end, it is topics which are raised in this way, probably not much different from those selected in many formal materials on alcohol education, but the method should stimulate interest and ensure that the lesson relates directly to children's own experiences and uses the language with which they are familiar.

The study on slow learners and their drinking experiences was carried out from the Psychology Department at Keele University, in schools in Stoke-on-Trent, between 1982 and 1984. A summary report of this study is available from Gill Combes, who is now working at Bath University School of Education on the HEC Health Education for Slow Learners Project.

The Scottish study referred to is by Jahoda G. and Crammond, J. (1978) Children and alcohol: a developmental study in Glasgow. Vol. 1 OPCS, HMSO, London.

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Facing the facts

Gillian Thomas on the FPA's Education Unit

The third vital component of the course endeavours to make participants aware of the needs of those they will be teaching. "Children, particularly adolescents, find the subject equally difficult to discuss in the classroom; whether among their peers or on a casual one-to-one basis with a teacher," says Gill Lenders, one of the Education Unit's tutors. "A sensitive understanding of their reticence is essential if they are to be drawn into discussion."

Finally, the courses tackle the most effective methods of putting the subject across. Here too the Unit suggests that it is best taught through role-play and discussion rather than matter-of-fact statement.

Sex education does not of course follow the same pattern in every school. Furthermore the teachers involved often have different subject backgrounds. Biology, home economics, history and English teachers were all involved in the course.

visited. Moreover, while it is in the first three years of secondary education that most schools recognize a need to deal with sexual topics as distinct from purely reproductive ones, the FPA would like to see the subject raised more extensively at primary level as well. "When children get to know about their bodies early on, they tend to have fewer hang-ups later," points out Joyce Rosser. "The methods used on our courses enable teachers to explore children's attitudes even at this early age."

Certainly all the participants I spoke to felt the course had helped to clarify their own ideas and attitudes and, in so doing, had given them confidence to tackle the subject within the classroom. A typical reaction was put to me by Cuan Virdi, a science teacher at Whitfield School, Hendon. "I have learned to handle the embarrassment factor," she said. "For instance, after they have sat through a biology lesson, children who are worried by a particular prob-

lem related to sex sometimes find an excuse to stop at the end and ask questions. I now feel ready to help them. The fact that sexual words are frequently used in abuse makes children, particularly those from ethnic minorities, even more embarrassed about raising the questions they really want to. She finds that because she has completed the course, other staff now refer children with "embarrassing" questions to her.

Sharing problems and bouncing ideas off other participants - the stimulating aspects of any course - are naturally even more vital when the subject relates so directly to personal relationships.

However, a distinct problem is that the Education Unit has difficulty in attracting as many men as women on to the courses. They try to offset this by using male tutors whenever possible. In fact the whole subject of male attitudes to sex is currently being raised by the FPC in a major project.

"Men Too", which it launched in October last year. A day conference entitled "Men, Sex and Relationships" in March attracted 400 delegates including many teachers.

An FPA video, *Danny's Big Night*, was presented there. Accompanied by discussion notes, it is intended to get older boys to think about their masculinity. The theme is "If you're old enough to make love, you are old enough to care".

While the Unit's approach to sex education concentrates on courses, it also has a wide range of general back-up material on family planning and health education, including leaflets, fact-sheets and a training handbook. For schools, it has had a trigger film, *Loving and Caring*, available for several years. Aimed at 14 to 15-year-olds, it is also available on video and can be hired free or purchased.

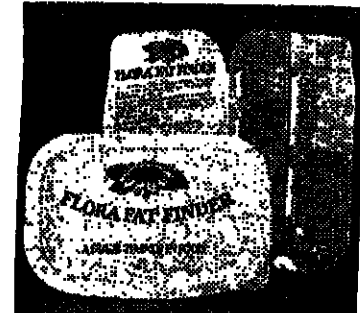
Dishing out resources without also personally helping teachers to handle the issues raised is clearly regarded by the Education Unit as being almost as inconceivable as sex without thought of contraception.

The next series of courses are being held in July in London, Birmingham, Exeter, Manchester, Peterborough and Sheffield. *Danny's Big Night* is available on video for hire (£10) or purchase (£40). The FPA Education Unit is at 27-29 Mortimer Street, London, W1N 7RJ (01-636 7866).

The Flora guide to health and diet.

The Flora Project for Heart Disease Prevention has produced this material with the help of specialists in the field of heart disease.

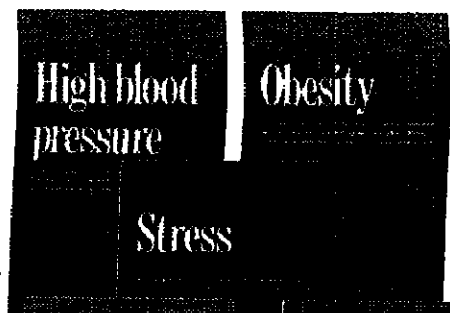
It is designed to help those involved in General Health Education, Food & Nutrition and related subjects, explain the role of fats in health and diet.



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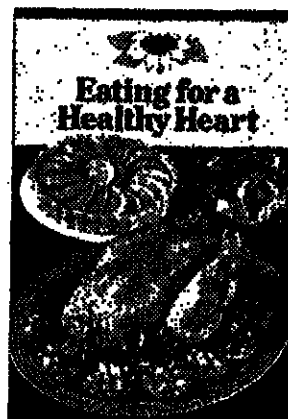
Drug advice

A £85,000 project comprising a guide to drug education across the curriculum, teaching materials and a training programme is being funded by the DES as part of the Government's initiative against drugs.

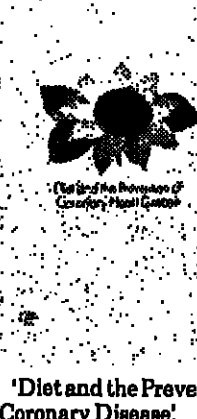
The project, due to be completed by September next year, is coordinated by the HEC TACADE (Teachers' Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Education) is devising the training handbook and a set of courses aimed at L.E.A.s and advisers, while the Institute is compiling the teacher's guide which will suggest how existing material on drugs could be incorporated in various curriculum areas. Life Skills is producing resource materials to help teachers work with 14-18-year-olds.

Gillian Thomas

For further information on TACADE write to: The Director, TACADE, 2 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NG.



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Penicillin kills guinea pigs and morphine is a stimulant for cats. So how reliable can tests on animals be when drugs are intended for humans?

Progress without Pain, a new 55-minute audio-visual programme designed for schools, takes a scientific look at the need for animal experiments. Sponsored by the Lord Dowding Fund for Humane Research, the programme does not hide the fact that it opposes vivisection though it invites those in favour to make out their case in an equally scientific, non-emotive way. The first part centres on new approaches to health and doctoring, the second on alternative methods of testing.

Though basically a comprehensive source of factual information about public health trends and medical care, it also raises salient issues relating to disease and modern lifestyles. For instance, graphs are used to show how rising standards of hygiene, lowered mortality rates, and the role of im-

EXTRA

Sniffing out trouble

Simon Berry on the Strathclyde Primary Prevention Programme on Solvent Abuse

A 17-minute video film will be the first introduction to solvent abuse for most 12-year-olds in secondary schools in the Strathclyde Region as from this academic year. The hope is that by catching all the S1 intake each year the growing practice of glue-sniffing in the West of Scotland will be halted and contained.

The main factors motivating teenagers to sniff glue appear to be peer-group pressure and boredom, the powerful lure of sniffing as a risky and exciting activity. The Strathclyde Education Department video tackles this view head-on, intercutting scenes of sniffers in depressing surroundings with more exciting footage of rock-climbing and canoeing to a quick-tempo soundtrack.

The commentary aims to be value-free, concentrating its emphasis on personal choice as a factor in approaching adult lifestyles. There is also quite detailed physiological information and some advice on how to avoid becoming involved with a glue-sniffing sub-culture.

The chairman of the Working Group, which was set up in 1980 to produce primary prevention material suitable for school use, is Toni Steele, headmaster of Johnstone High School in

Renfrewshire. He has already tried it out in various pilot versions at his school and is pleased with the final shape of the programme which is designed to fit into six health education periods.

"Previous research had shown that 13 was the age when most experiments with solvent abuse took place. This is also the age when children are looking for some challenge and excitement. In the video, and also in the short play on audio-cassette, we tried to provide material that teachers can use to help pupils in school anticipate situations that might arise out of school. Some people might say this is a controversial approach, but I would disagree entirely. Parents are shown the video beforehand, in fact on the same evening as we show them sex education films to be used in class, and there have been no objections."

One of those who advised the Working Group on producing the PPSA programme is Dr Joyce Watson who has been involved in various studies into the incidence of glue-sniffing since 1973. Her research into 102, 9 to 17-year-olds showed that, against a control group, the glue-sniffers were more likely to be involved in subsequent alcohol or drug abuse, perhaps confirming the "stepping-stone" status of solvent abuse. In another study Dr Watson discovered that family instability, unemployment and low income were not associated factors, but alcohol abuse by either parent did appear as a common factor.

So far, attempts to estimate the extent of glue-sniffing have relied

mainly on police and social work records. It was clearly a problem that was not widespread, but in certain pockets (usually centred on particular schools in urban areas) the incidence was more marked. Then in the late 1970s the numbers of deaths attributable to sniffing began to climb steeply: in 1981 out of 33 UK deaths 10 were from within Strathclyde. In 1982 the Social Work department produced a leaflet (*Sniffing: the Facts*) highlighting the symptoms for teachers and parents, but clearly an initiative was needed that aimed to prevent children from experimenting in the first place.

Also on the Working Group was Alistair Ramsay, ex-coordinator of a truancy project, now a staff tutor with the Glasgow division of the education department responsible for assessing health education teaching within secondary schools in the city. He is pleased that the Strathclyde PPSA has opportunities for cross-curriculum development, for example, using science periods for examining the properties of volatile hydrocarbons, English for expressing personal feelings of peer-group pressure and PE for the first aid aspects. The four workbooks also help to stimulate discussion and lead into social education programme.

The approach is low-key to avoid the danger of becoming counter-productive and it concentrates on developing life skills rather than dwelling on the health risks. The Strathclyde police figures for 1984 suggest that the PPSA might be having some effect already. Alistair Ramsay sees at first hand



the difficulties in getting teachers to tackle primary prevention when the appropriate classroom material is not available for a whole range of issues in health education.

"What we hope to do is turn off those children who are not already turned on", he says. "You have to satisfy their natural curiosity, but you also want to forewarn them of the dangers so that they can avoid them. With solvent abuse, as with under-age drinking and smoking, we are address-

ing a problem that takes place out of school hours and outside school hours, yet we need to provide teaching materials that trigger off a relevant response in the classroom. We that we have made a good start with this programme which is arousing a good deal of interest in other parts of Scotland."

Dr Joyce Watson's book *Solvent Abuse*, is to be published later this year by Macmillan Educational.

Fit to eat

Lorna Bailey on the OU's 'Healthy Eating' project

The Open University's Community Education Department has just completed the development phase of its "Healthy Eating" project and the learning materials will be available in June of this year. This project was commissioned and, in part, funded by the Health Education Council. Additional support was provided by the Scottish Health Education Group. The project has produced a short course "Healthy Eating" which has an assessment pack as an optional extra. The course covers two main areas. The first half, "Guidelines for Healthy Eating", explains the new nutritional goals and examines how individuals can put this general advice into practice in their everyday lives. "Patterns of Eating", the second half of the course, looks beyond nutritional advice to explore the other determinants of what we choose to eat. Nutritional advice, of course, often goes unheeded if it is not

related to these other factors which determine dietary preferences and constraints.

Over the last 10 years reports from around the world, including one from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1982, have suggested similar changes towards a healthier diet. Nutritionists who study the links between diet and disease are now in general agreement as to what makes up a healthier diet. Both the NACNE (National Advisory Committee on Nutrition Education) report and the COMA report on Diet and Cardiovascular disease came up with essentially the same recommendations. The "Healthy Eating" materials are based on these recommendations.

Nutritionists can give general advice and set goals for the average diet of the nation. The national average diet today is now considered to have an unhealthy balance of nutrients. Diagram 1 shows the balance of nutrients in our present average diet and in the recommended average diet. However, for the national average diet to change, millions of people will have to change their patterns of eating. Each person has to make everyday decisions about what to eat. These reports, as they stand, do not help the individual to put the recommended changes into practice.

Over the last two years there have been many articles in newspapers and magazines and several TV and radio programmes about the new nutritional advice. They have raised general awareness that today's diet is an unhealthy one and that, in particular, it increases our risks of developing cardiovascular diseases (heart disease and strokes), certain types of cancer and various disorders of the digestive system. Many people now believe they should cut down on fat, salt, and sugar and eat more fibre-rich foods. But they may discount this advice because they don't know how to convert nutrient guidelines into tomorrow's meals.

In particular they lack the tools which would enable them to decide for themselves:

●How do I measure up to these new targets?
●What changes, in terms of real food, should I make?

●What do I need to find out in order to be able to make these changes?
●How can I make these changes – and fit them into the kind of life I lead?
The "Healthy Eating" project was set up with the aim of helping people answer just these kinds of questions. Fortunately the changes are fairly easy to make and maintain once you know how to fit them into your preferred

Where do we get our Calories?	Where should we get our Calories?
Saturated fats 10%	Saturated fats 10%
Unsaturated fats 20%	Unsaturated fats 20%
Including 4% polyunsaturated fats	Including 4% polyunsaturated fats
Alcohol 6%	Alcohol 4%
Carbohydrates 44%	Carbohydrates 44%
Fibre 10%	Fibre 10%
Protein 10%	Protein 10%
Minerals 1%	Minerals 1%
Vitamins 1%	Vitamins 1%

Both give the same amount of Calories, but from a different balance of nutrients.

pattern of eating. You needn't spend the rest of your life craving certain foods once you learn how to keep a check on the overall balance of your diet! The new diet allows plenty of opportunity for choice so it needn't be taught prescriptively. The tools for reviewing and changing your diet can be used throughout life as individual dietary needs change or, indeed, if nutritional advice changes.

However, many people will find their choices restricted by the range of foods available. As with all the Open University's Community Education

materials, which concern themselves with issues of everyday life, the overall aim of the "Healthy Eating" project is to enable individuals to make informed decisions about their personal circumstances and lifestyle and about expressing their opinions and preferences in their communities over issues of wider concern.

Over sixty individual teachers helped us to develop these materials. In addition to the four questions about they also wanted to know – "How certain are the experts?" and "Will the advice be changed in the next few years?" It is important to emphasize when explaining nutritional advice that it is the best that can be offered at the present time. There is a general consensus among experts that the evidence is sufficient to back the advice. But exact direct scientific proof, by experiment, is extremely difficult to provide and may never be able to be provided. However, research continues it may be possible to identify those people who are especially likely to be harmed by much fat, salt or sugar.

Diet-related diseases, such as heart disease, are multifactorial and, like other risk factors associated with them. With our present state of knowledge these diseases can't be prevented but the risks of developing them can be reduced. Some people could eat an "unhealthy diet" and live to a healthy old age. But many others cannot: their health would be damaged. Since you can't tell in advance if you will be one of the lucky ones, what you choose to do will depend on your attitude to taking risks with your health. To avoid giving unjustifiably simple advice – a list of do's and don'ts – a more general chapter was included on "Health messages" which looks at what the experts are really saying, how certain they are and what may determine how you react to such advice.

Our testers also helped us by trying out the many quizzes and activities in the materials which help turn nutritional theory into working knowledge of use in ordinary life. They also gave us comments and examples from their own lives to add to the topics. In addition the materials were tested by

continued on page 38

EXTRA

Carry on nurse

John Sturt on the role of the school nurse



available. She is an established and important member of the team, though if one were questioned about her pastoral duties it would be hard precisely to define them.

She is in the pastoral team because she has proved valuable to it. She has been valuable because she has contributed knowledge both of children and of the home. Her knowledge does not just echo or reiterate that of her colleagues, because it has been forged from a different set of shared anxieties, seen from a different series of angles. This knowledge, and the close trust there is between her and the other pastoral staff, allows her to function in another, only marginally medical way. I refer to the sanctuary element that is built into the way her sickroom functions.

This is tricky ground on which only very well organized and hard headed angels should dare to tread. This is always an area where the predominantly academic staff are suspicious, always an area where risks are run and good intentions may be taken advantage of. But I believe such risks must be run. A school must put some pressure on children to achieve, and even less able or emotionally mangled children must be pressed to achieve what they can. Yet if you do this you must be prepared occasionally for

things to snap. And when the alternatives are a flaring confrontation with staff, or running blindly home or into town, it seems to me that they should be able to find a temporary cooling-off refuge with the nurse.

It is precisely because she knows the risks to good order that are inherent in her sanctuary role that Jeanne has cultivated a bustling, getting-on-with-it manner, a sharp though good humoured tongue for the lead swifter, who attempt to manipulate the system without good cause. She understands that only by playing the cheerful dragon on occasion can she help some little inadequate who would quickly deteriorate into a full scale school-phobic.

Her importance to our timetabled curriculum is considerable. She teaches health education classes, helps with the personal, social and moral education programme, and offers assistance with child care. She has proved a great contact for the provision of babies, and she seems able to recommend suitable doctors or family

planning experts – whoever or whatever we seem to need. Unlike many who venture into the classroom without actually being teachers, she does not have any problems. Most difficulties really stem from the visitor and the children not knowing each other. With Jeanne the children most likely to be difficult are those already best known to her, and she to them.

Her informal work for health has possibly an even greater influence than her formal work. Her main targets are such things as diet, hygiene, posture, exercise, smoking, and preventive work against alcohol abuse and expert mention with drugs; but her sights are not confined to these. She is often asked for advice on acne, or head lice, about infections at home which are worrying children, about how a young member of staff may get her baby to sleep through the night; and several years of gentle bullying were rewarded when with rather bad grace I finally gave up my beloved pipe.

To the classroom teacher whose work may be disrupted by them, the programmes of medical screening and

immunization seem nearly to grow more comprehensive. To Jeanne who has to coordinate and largely to organize them they must seem the same, though it is largely a tribute to her good humour and popularity that they are not more rebelled against. Throughout the year she keeps going – eye tests, routine medicals, hearing tests, screening for scoliosis, dental inspections, BCG screening, immunizations against Rubella, and so it goes on.

When it comes to her first aid work, the friendly jokey relationship which she has with the children is exactly right for defusing the incipient hysteria, calming the frightened and succouring the shocked. She knows whose mother is at home in the afternoon to look after a sick child, whose Dad had better not be told of a certain escapade, and who is staying with Granny – and why.

All in all, although technically employed by the Health Authority and not by Education, she has become in every sense a member of the school staff, uses the school for her own children, is currently vice chairman of the PTA and speaks often to the parents in our support.

To see her at work is to recognize commitment. Whether she is encouraging a teacher colleague with weight watching, finding a plaster for a blister, showing a child how to use a tooth brush, coaxing an incipient anorexic or lying down the law to a small boy whose pockets have revealed a battered packet of cigarettes, she is constantly in support of the school. She has, to be sure, a special place in her heart for the deprived, the dim and the damaged; but her joy in the success of the high flyer is true and authentic. Her day is full and varied, greatly rewarding even if shabbily rewarded. How on earth did we ever manage without her? She is so right for us that I worry sometimes whether we are right for her – but then I think she would tell us if we were not!

John Sturt is head of Knowles Hall School, Newton Abbot.

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Fit to eat

continued

group use by the Strathclyde Open Learning Experiment's (SOLE) community groups. They have helped us with other courses in the past and can be relied on for lively but constructive criticisms that help in producing "The Study Guide" which is part of the pack. Our experiences with earlier Community Education courses are repeated in "Healthy Eating", though written for adults, will be extensively used in schools. We have learned that teachers using our materials in classrooms! The great interest shown by teachers in our first two courses "The First Years of Life" and "The Pre-School Child" led to the HEC funding the Open University's "Education for Family Life" project, designed to help teachers in the field of personal and social education. Much of the "Healthy Eating" pack could be used directly with secondary school pupils. The chapters are made up of separate topics all of which have individual group activities that personalize the learning. In addition there are two audio-cassettes with accompanying study notes that would serve as discussion starters for exploring, for example, who decides what we eat or how our dietary preferences are formed. The optional assessment pack has computer marked multiple-choice assignments. A new feature is that the computer will now give feedback on the answers you select. Students of 16 or over may now become registered students of the OU for this course. A small number of sixth formers now register for Community Education

courses as part of their general studies. Media coverage of the new advice and the controversies concerning it has raised public awareness of the issues. Also, criticism by the HEC of home economics examinations should lead to an increasing focus on nutrition and health. So those involved in nutrition or health education now receive frequent reminders that they need to keep their knowledge up-to-date. For teachers, then, it is hoped that this package of learning materials will provide:

- an up-to-date on nutrition education, a model for teaching decision-making and plans for dietary change, and also for exploring attitudes to health-related risk taking and what determines the pattern of eating;
- a resource collection of tested quizzes, activities and structured learning materials for adaptation for classroom use;
- a guide and audio-tapes for group discussion of the issues involved in dietary change;
- Not least - a chance to review their own diet.

Teachers who would like to obtain the "Healthy Eating" pack or to know more about these materials or other Community Education learning materials should write to Lorna Bailey, Community Education Learning Materials, MK7 6AA Telephone: (0908) 74066. We would be delighted to hear how you use the materials and would seek to share your experiences with other teachers.

Lorna Bailey is the course team chairman of the Open University "Healthy Eating" project.

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Heartbeat Wales

Iola Smith on a new project designed to promote healthy living

Wales is usually backward in coming forward but, for once, it is taking the lead and launching the world's largest anti-coronary health education project. Inaugurated this spring, Heartbeat Wales is a five year programme designed to reduce the number of coronary deaths in Wales and to foster a general awareness of the importance of healthy living. About two million people will be involved, ranging in age from 7 to 70 plus, with emphasis being placed on getting the health message across to pupils in the Principality's primary and lower secondary schools. In the past, Britain hasn't been too hot on preventive medicine. Counselling programmes in other countries mainly have led to a 20-30 per cent fall in the number of coronary deaths. At present, the Welsh figure is far too high, as project director Professor John Catford explains. "With certain other parts of Britain, Wales shares the unenviable distinction of having the highest rate of heart attacks in Europe. With 10,000 people in the Principality dying from this cause every year, the scale of the problem in Wales is equivalent to a jumbo jet crashing every fortnight."

The appointment of Professor Catford to a Chair in Health Education and Health Promotion (the only such Professorship in Europe) was instrumental in founding Heartbeat Wales. The project is funded by a £1.5 million grant from the Health Education Council and an initial £120,000 from the Welsh Office. It is a pilot scheme whose outcome is being monitored by health chiefs in the rest of the UK. If it proves as successful as anticipated, it will be expanded to cover the whole of Britain. Professor Catford's approach is to change attitudes to health. "Our role is to make healthy choices the easy choice by promoting in people a sense of self worth, an ability to control their own lives, and the confidence to make the changes required."

This will all be achieved through a massive health education campaign taking place in hospitals, sports centres, workplaces and schools. School sessions will be devised mainly for 8 to 13-year-olds, an age group which can be influenced before the hardened attitudes of teenage years set in. Some health education is already provided at school and at a level, but Heartbeat Wales is spearheading a major expansion. It is convinced that health education should have a central place on the curriculum. As Huw Davies, project information officer puts it, "The curriculum prepares pupils for work rather than for living. And it doesn't take into

account the number of working days lost through ill health."

Support is forthcoming from the Education and some authorities such as South Glamorgan have appointed health education co-ordinators in each comprehensive school. Heartbeat Wales is currently preparing anti-smoking teachers' packs as over a quarter of coronary deaths are smoking related. Films showing the links between smoking and heart disease will also be included for visual impact. Pupils' lack of general information about the causes of heart disease, and their ignorance of what to do if an attack occurs, has led the team to promote first aid training. It's now hoped that cardio-pulmonary resuscitation will become a component in health education lessons. Gwent Ambulance service, for example, is already engaged in teaching resuscitation to 6000 volunteers.

The content of specific school subjects is also under scrutiny. Discussions are under way with the WJEC to include health foods in O level/CESE home economics courses. At present, practical cookery tends to encourage the production of aesthetically attractive meals. Heartbeat Wales wishes to emphasize good nutritional content instead.

"Physical Education should also change direction from competitive sport at which only a few can excel to a healthy exercise programme for everyone," says Huw Davies. Advisory packs on suitable exercises are currently being prepared and in-service training courses are being planned for PE teachers. The project team is also striving to involve the University of Wales and Higher Education Institutions so that they can include health education as a component in teacher training and PGCE courses.

Huw Davies is convinced that the project will receive support from all sectors of the Welsh community, except the tobacco industry. "The high incidence of smoking in Wales is unacceptable. So as well as encouraging children not to start smoking, we're hoping that adults will give up. The tobacco industry in Britain enjoys too much freedom. In Finland, there's no so. For example, smoking isn't allowed in public places, advertising is curbed and the wishes of non-smokers are legally protected. We also feel that in Britain tobacco sponsorship of sport should be banned as smoking is incompatible with healthy living."

On the nutrition front, Heartbeat Wales is being supported by the food industry. Ingredients and their quantities are already labelled on packaged foods and Sainsbury's is due

to follow suit. In Wales, this is to be accompanied by talks on nutrition and healthy diets directed at organisations as wide ranging as women's refectory, farmers' groups, Stewards of the Shire, eating fresh fruit and vegetables, the talks' objective. This will reach benefit potential community centres also play a part in preventing St. Hilary. (Wales has one of the highest incidences of Spina Bifida - there's currently double that of southern England)

In conjunction with the NHI, the project team is seeking to improve the quality of meat by lessening the content of institutional meals. This also be improved nutritionally and as a result, it is anticipated that the school meals' service in Wales will subsequently switch to health foods, a cost cutting and health decision.

For the project to succeed, its coronary death figures for Wales will have to fall during the next five years. The team is also developing a long term strategy so that today's school children will be less likely to develop heart disease at 40 plus. The initial survey involving 30,000 people will begin this June. Individuals and their families will be closely monitored and they will receive health education counselling. Three thousand of the group will also be clinically tested to that the project can build up an accurate database of the type of personalities, occupations and communities particularly at risk. Then, when all the information is gathered, the project workers will be able to offer further preventive counselling to the most vulnerable.

It is also anticipated that medical services will improve as a result of the programme. In Wales, for example, patients spend an average of four minutes in consultation with their doctor. First, on the other hand, are allocated up to 20 minutes for each consultation, during which lifestyle, discussed as well as particular aches and pains. Again, there's a marked difference in spending on preventive medicine in the two countries. Finland provides 50p per person for health education. In Wales, the figure is 14p.

These are only some of the major changes in attitudes to health which should emerge as a result of Heartbeat Wales. John Catford, however, is well aware of the size of the problem which must be overcome. "We won't eradicate heart disease completely but we can lessen it considerably by adopting healthier ways of living."

The World Health Organization now recognizes tobacco smoking as the major preventable cause of ill-health in the developed nations. An OPCS survey showed that 19 per cent of 11-16 year olds smoke at least occasionally and that four out of five young people who smoke will go on to become lifelong smokers. Given that it is more possible to stop people developing the habit than to help them give it up, what should the schools do about it?

Certainly not ignore the problem. Nor, I suggest, can they any longer pussyfoot around the issue, evenhandedly explaining the pros and cons of smoking, because they are up against a major industry whose every carefully placed, impeccably researched, highly sophisticated invitation to smoke is calculated to hit home. As for the government health warning on every packet, any teenager can bounce back with a snappy rejoinder about crossing roads doing the Dole expedition or jogging.

Teenage smokers are big business. According to a Health Education Council (HEC) fact sheet, fifth formers in Britain and Wales already spend £1 million a week on cigarettes (90 per cent of under 16s buying their own over the counter) and (though the industry refutes suggestions that its advertising influences teenagers, there is plenty of evidence to the contrary).

As Australian survey showed that schoolchildren favour the most heavily advertised brands while in this country it seems the TV sports sponsorship - Embassy, Benson and Hedges, John Player Special - is the most effective way of reaching children. And as I saw when I visited Essex Junior School in the London Borough of Newham, even ten and eleven year olds are susceptible to the adman's magic spell.

There they were, in the middle of their "My Body" smoking project, surrounded by charming embroidered collages of hearts and tongues, foul sneaky bottle "lungs" full of nicotine stained cotton wool, and just to set the record straight, the FOREST newspaper, the smokers' charter. But most impressive of all was the wall of tobacco advertisements and the in-depth explanations that accompanied them.

"You can see from the man, how he's dressed and how he stands. If you smoke Marlborough, you're tough". "The Silk Cut is about being elegant and beautifully dressed". "This one's all about skyscrapers, New York - like you're very rich, travel a lot, that sort of thing. They try to make you think that smoking is what rich, famous people do - if you want to be like that you got to smoke too".

Aware of the pressure, both from tobacco companies and older siblings, the children have responded warmly to the HEC's striking Pace Setter poster series - Daley Thompson, Flonola Hughes and other idols. "If you want to be a dancer or footballer or anything, you never do it if you smoke."

They have taken to the work with unparalleled enthusiasm, say the staff. It is not only that "Smoking" is part of a popular four year "My Body" pack - age which means that they already know about heart, lung, liver, respiration. It is also a real issue, one to take home and talk about. Hence the question-

PACESETTERS / DON'T SMOKE



Kicking the habit

Susan Thomas on the importance of 'smoking' education

naire. A document to make all parties think.

"Do you smoke? How many a day? When did you start? How much do you spend on it in a week? Do you think that tobacco advertising in sport is a bit odd? If smoking was invented today would it be illegal?" And as evidence of their involvement, their own subsidiary questions: Did you start because your friend smoked; your family smoked; you liked the taste; you thought it was grown up?"

Significantly, and this is one of the issues that has worried teachers in the past, none of the parents objected. On the contrary, as other schools are finding, they are more likely to ask for help in kicking their own habit.

At Manchester, the University's Family Smoking Education project involves parents, pupils, and teachers. The approach was pioneered in Nor-

way where it was very successful. Now in the third stage of its trials, it has come to a temporary halt whilst the District Health Authorities arrange sufficient support sessions to cope with all those parents who want to give up after taking part.

Part of the project's success, says Ian Peers, the man in charge of FSE, is that it is suitable for use by teachers who have not previously done any Health Education work, and "Taking a worst case scenario, could be used quite happily on a wet Friday afternoon". You can tell he came out of a classroom!

The emphasis in smoking education has changed from scaring people with early death, an approach which works better in middle age than middle school, to awareness of the facts are still needed but awareness of media methods and peer group pressures, of

the value of no-smoking zones, no-smoking schools and no-smoking workshops, is the first line of defence.

Then there's inoculation - the creation of antibody attitudes before the teenagers find themselves under pressure. It is the latest thing from the States and currently enjoying a fair measure of success in its Bristol trials. "Smoking and Me" (SAM) was written for the HEC by Elisabeth Gray of Bristol University. It is now in its second phase with classes of 12-13 year olds. It has its basis in the behavioural work of Richard Evans of the University of Houston. He aims to prepare teenagers against the social pressures to smoke by giving them strong counter arguments and allowing them to rehearse these and appropriate attitudes in role play and group work.

Phase 1 of the project involved use of the American material, an enquiry into the smoking habits and health beliefs of 10,000 Avon teenagers and the writing of SAM, a half term's worth of peer-led, social consequences. And if that sounds too much like jargon, take heart. Even at the pilot stage, the teacher's booklet is a model of clarity and brevity.

SAM is about dividing the class into small groups, to discuss and role play in a very structured way. The groups are asked how many of their peers they think smoke, why people smoke, how to refuse a cigarette without losing face, the rights of smokers and non-smokers and external pressures. And what emerges is that they always over-estimate how many people smoke. (why?). That smoking is actually a minority pursuit, and that peer leadership is a very powerful tool in changing attitudes.

Because this will be unknown territory to many, the teacher's guide is full of careful advice about forming and directing the groups, feeding in information and helping them come to conclusions. It also includes fact-sheets, addresses and bibliography.

It must be evident from this review that there are almost as many approaches to the problem as there are brands on the market. But smoking is a complex issue. Sometimes one and sometimes another approach seems to work. We are still a long way from understanding why. In the meantime, with 95,000 smoking related deaths a year, no responsible school can ignore the problem. And the one certainty is that "smoking" education should start before secondary school and the first cigarette.

Since example is a major factor in influencing children, for those adults still addicted to the weed the HEC has brought out two booklets - "How They Gave Up Smoking" and "So You Want To Give Up Smoking". In the first, scores of individuals explain how they stopped - anything from celery to religion to acupuncture. In the second, the HEC gives a blow by blow recipe for success.

Useful addresses: Health Education Council, 78 New Oxford Street, London WC1 1AH. ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) 27-35 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7RJ. Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence, Kingsbury House, 3 Blackburn Road, London NW6 1XA.

Energy gap

Human Energy Expenditure
Price £18.34 for
Computers in the Curriculum Project,
Chelsea College
Longman Group Ltd, Resources Unit,
62 Hatfield Road, Haverthorpe, York
YO3 7XQ.

This program calculates the energy required for various activities which are performed for varying amounts of time, and the energy obtained from eating different foods. The calculations are done in either kilojoules or kilocalories and you can choose different body masses for a male or a female.

A list, provided on a leaflet, offers 42 activities covering general, domestic and sports situations, and you can choose how much time to spend on them. The option LISTA will then display each activity, the time spent on it and the energy involved.

Similarly, you can choose from another list of 71 foods; the program will calculate the energy obtained from each and display the information. I found this part unsatisfactory since I could only enter the amount of food in single portions, such as one slice of bread or 50g of meat. There seemed to be no way of telling the program that I had eaten more than one portion.

The option BALANCE displays the amount of energy obtained from the food eaten, the amount expended in doing the activities and the amount in debit or credit. However, the calculation is done on the single, pre-determined portions of food, so additional calculations have to be worked out for different individual circumstances.

Some ideas are given for various investigations, and the teacher's guide suggests changing some of the pre-set values by altering the information given in certain lines of the program, but it does not explain how to get in to the program.

This is a useful program with good, clear documentation, but it is rather expensive for what it does.

Bob Fairbrother

Fast aid

Practical First Aid, British Red Cross Society (Dorling Kindersley £2.50, 0 86318 038 8). This beautifully illustrated guide is ideal for beginners, and even experts must learn something from it. The text moves from the grander instructions on how to handle an accident, to more specific problems such as splinters or insect bites. As well as being of considerable value for school children, it should be in the office of every school secretary, the one who most often has to deal with such emergencies.

Joan Freeman

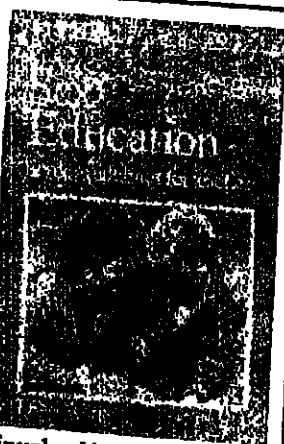
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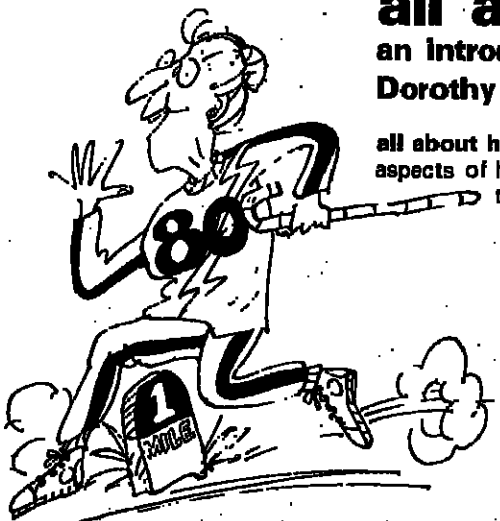
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Wiltshire

Primary Education

HEADTEACHER POSTS

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Group 5 N.O.R. 300

Head Teacher required for 1st January 1986 following the promotion of the present Head. A well experienced candidate is sought who is sympathetic to co-operative teaching methods, general involvement and the strengthening of community links.
Application forms and further details (S.A.E. please) from the Chief Education Officer, Education Department, (Ref. 877/PM/8), County Hall, Trowbridge, by 15th June 1985.

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Middle Winterslow, Salisbury
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Head Teacher required for 1st January 1986 for this 6-8 First School housed in a modern building. The school is situated in a village with a strong sense of community. The school is a member of the Church of England and is a voluntary aided school. The school is seeking a Head Teacher who is a committed Christian and who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit. The school is seeking a Head Teacher who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit. The school is seeking a Head Teacher who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit.

LOWBOURNE INFANTS SCHOOL

Lowbourne, Mafeking SN12 7ED
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STEEPLE LANOFORD C.E. (AIDED) FIRST SCHOOL

Steeple Lanford, Steeple Langford, Salisbury SP3 4NQ
Group 1 N.O.R. 30

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DEPUTY HEADTEACHER POSTS

NEW CLOSE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

30 Imber Road, Warminster BA12 9JJ
Group 4 N.O.R. 132

Deputy Head required for 1st January 1986. Enthusiastic primary teacher to be responsible for Infant Department. Applicants should be willing to take a lead in curriculum development, work closely with colleagues and be aware of present needs in education. The school is a voluntary aided school and is a member of the Church of England. The school is seeking a Deputy Head Teacher who is a committed Christian and who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit. The school is seeking a Deputy Head Teacher who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit. The school is seeking a Deputy Head Teacher who is able to lead the school in a Christian spirit.

DEVIZES, ST. JOSEPH'S R.C. AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

St. Joseph's Place, Devizes SN10 1DD
Group 4 N.O.R. 172

Deputy Head required for 1st January 1986. Must be a committed and practising Catholic, with considerable infant experience. Should possess Catholic Teacher Certificate. Application forms and further details (S.A.E. please) from and returnable to the Headmaster by 10th June, (S.A.E. please).

SCALE 1 POST

PAXCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ashton Street, Trowbridge BA14 7EB
Group 4 N.O.R. 240

Required from September 1985, a Temporary Scale 1 Teacher for one year for a two Teacher Co-operative Unit. A successful applicant will teach middle juniors, and an interest in Mathematics would be an advantage. Further details and application forms (S.A.E. please) may be obtained from the Chief Education Officer, Education Office, 48-52 Station Road, Wood Green, London N22 4TY, to whom forms should be returned by 14.6.85.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER POSTS

ST. MICHAEL'S R.C. JUNIOR & INFANTS SCHOOL, NEWPORT

Group 3

Applications are invited from practising Roman Catholics for the post of Deputy Headteacher of the above school. Further details and application forms available from Father A. L. Henson, St. Michael's Presbytery, Pillwenny, Newport. Closing date: 14th June, 1985.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

ST. MARY'S R.C. INFANTS SCHOOL, NEWPORT

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PRIMARY HEADSHIPS

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HAMPSHIRE

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CALDERDALE

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

Practical Mathematics

Sylvia Johnson writes about practical work and its assessment as seen in classes taking part in the SSCC Study.

Teachers in 40 SMP Pilot schools around the country are now in their second year of assessing practical skills in mathematics under the G Course assessment scheme. This year they have been joined by teachers in 10 Suffolk schools and 5 Rotherham schools, who, as part of the SSCC study, are using the assessment scheme with their own teaching materials.

6 different practical skills are assessed in the scheme: measuring length ● measuring weight ● using money ● reading two-way tables ● interpreting three dimensions.

The process of assessing these skills has raised a number of organisational and issues. It has encouraged many teachers to use the practical suggestions in the Guides to the G Course books more fully, and encouraged some to find other ways of developing practical work in their classrooms. It has resulted in a greater awareness of problems pupils have when trying to solve a practical problem or perform a simple task. And it has made all of us look more closely at precisely what is involved in many each of these 5 practical skills.

Assessing Practical Skills

In the everyday world we meet many practical tasks orally and expect an oral response; — "Will the wardrobe fit into the alcove?" — "How much fencing will we need?" — "What length of curtain rail do you need? These are the sizes it comes in" and so on.

In trying to model this situation, roughly half of the assessment tasks have been written to be presented to pupils orally, and for pupils to give an oral response. This calls for one-to-one assessment of pupils. Setting that up in schools presents many organisational problems and has inevitably been time-consuming. Teachers have tried many different approaches, some of which are outlined below.

Elizabeth is gradually assessing her pupils one at a time during lesson time. She has all the assessment material in a cupboard in her room and when she can, she takes a pupil to one side of the room to give an assessment while the rest of her class continue with their work. Sometimes she assesses several pupils in one lesson, sometimes just one. She doesn't like to spend too much time in any one lesson on assessment nor to spend too many lessons consecutively on this. She feels quite confident at handling this situation with this fourth year class. She has a large room where she teaches all the time and can prepare the room before the lesson if she needs to; the pupils are very pleasant and well motivated. She doesn't know whether this method will work with her third year group as they are much more boisterous.

John and Andrew decided they would combine their classes from time to time to enable them to assess practical skills. That way one of them could conduct the assessment while the other worked with the rest of the pupils. As far as possible they try to organise the assessment so that each tests the pupils in his own class. They feel this system works well; they share the work load and they get support from each other. They both have fairly small classes and are not sure that this method would work if their classes were larger. They try to assess as many pupils as they can each time they put their classes together like this and they are at present taking one task at a time and trying it with all the pupils before setting up another task.

Susan is using one of her preparation lessons each week to assess pupils. The deputy head has agreed to count this as a substitution. Neither thinks it is an ideal situation but they are using this approach for the time being until they can work out a better arrangement. During this lesson, Susan extracts pupils one at a time from their maths lessons and assesses them on one of the tasks which she has set up in the maths office. It is taking a long time to get through all the pupils on each task and giving feedback to the class teachers is also time consuming. However, it is easy to organise and Susan feels that it is fair on all pupils since she is the only person conducting the assessment and has the same standards for all.

Ian is a 'float' teacher in the fourth year. Each time they have maths he is available. His time is spent in a variety of ways, one of which is to help other teachers with practical assessment in whatever ways they wish. He is sometimes used to work with a class while the class teacher extracts pupils for assessment. Other teachers ask him to do the assessment himself. Often he and the class teacher work in the same room, one teaching, the other assessing. He feels this system works well and fits in with the different ways in which people want to work. It took some time to get used to his role.

Ideally, one-to-one assessment of practical skills is an on-going part of normal classroom activity and one which does not require special tasks or special forms of organisation. However, it is not easy to attain this ideal and there are problems which none of us should underestimate. In a class of 20 or so unmotivated and potentially 'difficult' teenagers, trying to assess the practical skills of one while the rest carry on with other work might be a recipe for disaster!

Moving towards this situation implies regular practical work in the classroom and developing such work has been a preoccupation for some teachers involved in the assessment scheme.

Developing Practical Work in the Classroom

One of the successful starting points for many teachers has been the setting up of a 'cruce'. This is a collection of short practical tasks which may cover a range of skills might all cover aspects of one skill, e.g. measuring length.

Pupils usually work in pairs, trying the activities in turn. Often, pupils are expected to solutions down, or to make something. Examples of activities which have been used are shown in Fig. 1.

Starting practical work in this way has some positive advantages;

- It is easy to organise in the classroom
- pupils can work at different rates
- there can be a great variety of activity
- It promotes much discussion if pupils work in pairs
- because it is fairly structured, the teacher is free to spend a lot of time with individual pupils without 'hindering' the progress of others who can move on to new tasks
- it may provide starting points for a wide range of other practical activities by one of the tasks for example and developing that into a series of related activities

Undoubtedly, there are dangers too in restricting practical work in the classroom to this type of activity. This diagnostic value of such work is only realised if the teacher is actively involved with the pupils; relying on the written solutions or the finished articles does not always give any indication of the problems pupils may have had. The use of the practical circus is unlikely on its own to lead to the integration of practical work into the curriculum. It is, however, proving to be a useful starting point from which to develop. But there is no doubt that pupils have gained a lot of enjoyment from the activities and have tackled them seriously and with responsibility.

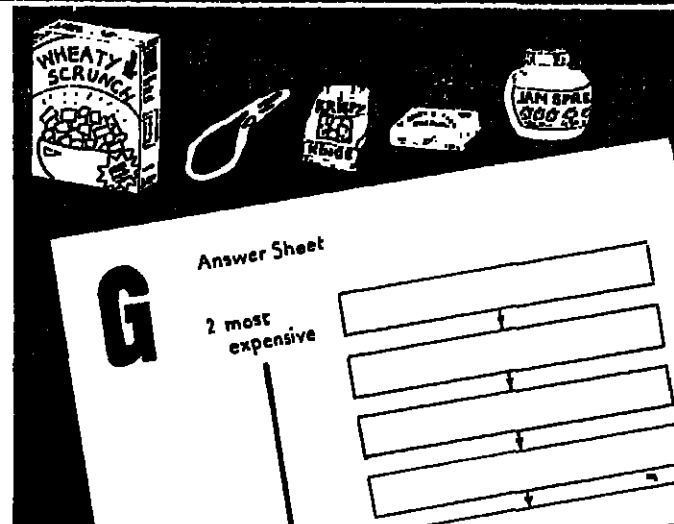


Fig. 2

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Check your equipment

Box of food
Coins worth £1

2. Take the food out of the box and sort it out. Put it in a line, the most expensive thing first, then the next most expensive thing and so on. Finish with the cheapest thing. Write your list of food on your worksheet.
3. Work out how much it would cost to buy all the food. Write your answer down on your worksheet.
4. Count out the change you get from paying for the food with a £5 note. Write down the change on your worksheet. Write down the coins you counted out.

SMP Examinations

The present position

GCE SMP GCE examinations are administered by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board and are available to all schools.

SMP O-level. From 1985 onwards a revised Syllabus replaces Syllabuses N and C. No calculating aids are permitted in Paper 1; an electronic calculator is required for Paper 2.

SMP Additional Mathematics. A new Syllabus and style of Papers came into operation in 1984.

SMP A-level. A revised Syllabus comes into operation for the 1985 examination.

SMP Further Mathematics. A revised Syllabus comes into operation for the 1985 examination.

SMP:CEE. This examination is administered by a consortium of GCE Boards. It includes Coursework as well as written Papers. Syllabuses for the above examinations are available from the SMP office.

Mathematics (SMP). In 1984 the first examination of a Joint O-level/CSE examination, administered jointly by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board and the West Midlands Examinations Board was held. From the 1985 examination onwards this examination, now administered by the Midland Examinations Board, is available nationally. The full range of O-level and CSE grades is available to pupils in all schools.

Details of this examination are available from the West Midlands Examinations Board, Norfolk House, Smallbrook Queensway, Birmingham, B5 4NJ.

SMP 11-16 examinations

O-level and CSE for pupils in the pilot schools only, an O-level/CSE examination is being held in 1985, 1986, 1987. This examination includes a Coursework component as well as written Papers. Graduated assessment is being used with pupils following the G Course of SMP 11-16. The operation of this graduated scheme of assessment is being monitored by the DES funded SSCC Study.

SSCC Information Sheets which give details of the scheme are available from the SMP office.

SMP 11-16 and GCSE

The first material for years 3, 4 and 5 is now published, and schools are looking ahead to the first GCSE examinations in 1988. Will the new SMP 11-16 course lead to a GCSE examination? The answer to this question must be 'yes' because it would be madness for the SMP to produce a course which did not lead to a public examination!

Now that the GCSE National Criteria for Mathematics are published it is possible to compare the pilot 16+ scheme based on SMP 11-16 with the criteria. The pilot scheme (which was described in the previous edition of SMP News, November 1984) matches up very well, not only as regards syllabus content but equally importantly as regards the inclusion of coursework assessment. The coursework component of the assessment scheme is the most significant innovation in the

scheme and the SMP and its pilot schools have undertaken pioneering work in this field. The first candidates to have followed the draft version of the SMP 11-16 course throughout take their written examination papers this summer, having completed their coursework assessment programme just before Easter. The Secondary Examinations Council has funded the appointment of two part-time coursework development officers who are monitoring the coursework assessment and will report on the working of the scheme, so that the experience gained can be made available to Examinating Groups, all of whom will be working towards the inclusion of coursework assessment in their GCSE examinations in mathematics.

The GCSE criteria make provision for national projects, and SMP 11-16 will seek the status of a national project. If this is granted, then there will be a single GCSE examination based on SMP 11-16 operated on behalf of an Inter-Group Committee for the first few years. After this the position will be reviewed and it may then be thought appropriate for each Examinating Group to set its own examinations on the project. (Should SMP 11-16 not be recognised as a national project, it will negotiate the provision of an examination with one or other of the Groups at present involved in the pilot examination. Examinations offered by one Examinating Group will be generally available to schools throughout the country.)

As soon as definite information becomes available the SMP will make it known to all schools on its file of those known to be using SMP 11-16 materials. In the meantime schools can be assured that the pilot 16+ scheme at present in operation in the testing schools already matches well the criteria for GCSE examinations in mathematics and there should be no reason why a successor GCSE scheme, suitably modified where necessary in the light of experience, should not be available from 1988 onwards.

Copies of a booklet describing the pilot 16+ scheme, together with two sets of papers (specimen papers and mock papers) are obtainable from the SMP Office, price 95p including postage.

How long does a Project last? A request for help

Curriculum and assessment go hand in hand, even though two separate bodies — the School Curriculum Development Committee and the Secondary Examinations Council — now have national responsibility for them. Nowhere is the link more important than when a new course is under development; the wrong assessment can distort the aims of the project.

But how long does a 'project' remain a project? When does it cease to merit its own assessment scheme? The view expressed in early Director's Reports, that the SMP would flourish and, having influenced others, die, is now seen to have been unrealistic. SMP courses and examinations continue to thrive. With the advent of SMP 11-16 a 'new wave' of SMP materials is entering the schools; we even hear talk of

'traditional SMP'. The coming of GCSE, which will be administered by five examining groups, raises the question of the role of an SMP examination for schools using the 'numbered' and 'lettered' books.

There is now a Joint O-level/CSE scheme, based on SMP syllabus development, available nationally through the Midland Examinations Group. Until this scheme was launched (the first examination was in 1984) no CSE scheme had been developed by the SMP, so none could claim our blessing. Looking forward to GCSE the five examining groups are naturally considering the needs of schools using SMP courses. It seems probable that some of the other groups will set about producing their own assessment scheme for pupils following 'traditional' SMP courses. (Indeed, at least one group has already made a start.) What is the SMP view of such developments?

The first point to make is that SMP O-level has retained a large entry because teachers have preferred it to the alternatives offered by GCE Boards. In the GCSE, schools will have freedom of choice and should be able to use the assessment scheme which matches SMP courses in aims as well as content. That does not mean that there must be only one such scheme.

There are four aspects of SMP O-level (and A-level) which have evolved during the past twenty years; all are important, and should play their parts in any new scheme of assessment.

(i) **The syllabus.** This is, perhaps, the easiest to deal with. Obviously there must be a clear link between the mathematical content of the syllabus and the SMP texts; any stated aims should match SMP aims. In fact, now that the syllabus operated by the Midland Examinations Group is published, based as it is on SMP development, it should not be difficult for any group to produce a suitable syllabus! However, while it is easy to state aims, it is through the examination papers (and other assessment items) that aims are translated into practice.

(ii) **Assessment items.** The best syllabus can be spoiled by dull or misdirected examination papers; the coursework in GCSE must also reflect the underlying aims. No one would claim that all past SMP O-level papers (for example) have been equally good mirrors of SMP intentions, but the continued life of SMP O-level indicates a high level of success in this respect. So, in any proposed new scheme, the specimen papers (and other assessment items) require careful evaluation.

(iii) **Continuing involvement.** For some years now, after each examination, a team of SMP teachers has prepared comments on the papers set — brickbats as well as bouquets — for the examiners to consider. In this way a continuing dialogue between the examiners and SMP schools has been established, keeping the spirit of the business alive. A similar continuing interaction between schools associated with the project and the examining group would be an essential feature of any new scheme.

(iv) **Syllabus review and development.** It is the policy of the SMP to keep syllabuses and schemes of assessment under review and revise them from time to time. This ability of the project — that is the schools who use SMP materials — to revise the syllabus and scheme of assessment should also be built into any new scheme.

Can you help?

We have already received from one examining group proposals for a scheme of assessment which they believe may be suitable for pupils following SMP courses. We may well receive others. Items (iii) and (iv) above — especially the former — require a number of teachers who can take part in the 'monitoring' of any scheme on a regular basis. If your school uses SMP materials and is within the territory of one of the examining groups, and if an appropriate member of the mathematics department would be prepared to assist in this way, please write to me. It would be very helpful to have a list of teachers prepared to participate in this.

John Hersee

Developments

Coursework working party. The National Criteria for GCSE lay down that from 1991 onwards all schemes of assessment must include a coursework component, accounting for at least 20 per cent of the assessment. A coursework component may be offered as an option in the years 1988 to 1990.

The pilot scheme of assessment for SMP 11-16 includes a coursework component and a working party has been set up to develop coursework assessment to accompany other SMP GCSE schemes. If you have suggestions which you would like the group to consider, or if you have experience in this area which you feel would be useful in their work, please write to John Hersee at the SMP office.

A-level for the 1990s. What should be the content and style of A-level in the future? How should calculators and microcomputers affect the mathematics in the course and how it is taught and learned? How do the aims of paragraph 243 of the Cockcroft Report apply to A-level?

A working party has been set up to consider these and other questions and to produce proposals for SMP A-level development. If you have suggestions or ideas, either about the course or the examination, please write to John Hersee at the SMP office.

Further Mathematics. The Secondary Examinations Council has approved our proposal, outlined in the last issue of SMP News, for trials of an alternative component of assessment. We hope that this experiment will begin in a small group of schools for the 1988 examination.

A review of the syllabus is almost complete. The new version will have the familiar pattern of five sections, of which a candidate will need to study three. The titles of four of the sections will be as now, but a new section — Differential Equations and Numerical Analysis — replaces the old section 3. Electricity has been removed from the syllabus and there are other changes in the sections which retain the same titles. The syllabus will be presented in a 'Syllabus plus Notes' format. The new section reflects the importance of numerical methods in the day of the calculator and computer.

The new version of the syllabus should be available shortly. Comments will be invited from schools who enter candidates. If you would like to receive a copy of the syllabus when it is available please write to the SMP office.

Mr Christopher Little has been appointed SMP Executive Officer.
Mr Little, who takes up his post on 1st September 1985, is at present Head of Mathematics at St Birinus' School, Didcot. Following the Mathematics Tripos at Cambridge, Mr Little took an MSc at Warwick University, from where he joined the staff of Manchester Grammar School. Before moving to his present post he was Head of Mathematics at Aylesbury Grammar School. We welcome him to the SMP.

SMP office on the move

In the summer the main SMP office will move to the University of Southampton, although SMP 11-16 business will continue to be dealt with from Westfield College. From September 1st all inquiries or letters NOT concerned with SMP 11-16 should be addressed to: **The School Mathematics Project, The University of Southampton, Southampton, SO9 5NH.** SMP 11-16 business should be directed, as at present, to Westfield College.

In-Service Resource Kits

Eleven kits are now available. A kit typically comprises material on possible classroom approaches to mathematical topics (not solely 'SMP' topics or 'SMP' approaches), research results on children's learning difficulties, offprints from relevant recent articles in mathematics education journals and, possibly, practical activities for the teachers themselves. Each kit, packed in a manilla envelope file, contains enough material for several one-hour sessions and has a tutor's section, which comprises notes for the tutor and single copies of other sheets in the kit for reference. Material for distribution to the group is supplied in batches of fifteen loose-leafed sheets with an extra copy on white paper. The kits vary in size and in style, some including overhead projector transparencies and two a tape-alide sequence.

Fractions £4.50 + £1.20 p&p
A kit dealing with the pros and cons of teaching fractions, including information on recent research results.
Directed Numbers £5.00 + £1.20 p&p
The kit contains substantial tutor's notes and three overhead projector transparencies to assist presentation.
Calculators £4.00 + £1.20 p&p
A kit intended for those with little knowledge of calculators who wish to consider how calculators may successfully be exploited to enhance the teaching of mathematics.
On being sent £5.00 + £1.20 p&p.
The need for proof and the kinds of argument that are convincing are examined in this kit. Examples are drawn from many branches of mathematics.

The Mathematics Department £5.50 + £1.20 p&p
Case studies of five departments (including a Middle School) are the basis of this kit with examples on how a school can use them to examine its own methods.
3-D Geometry £8.50 + £1.20 p&p
This kit is intended to help teachers develop activities and resources for 3-D work in mathematics and contains suitable materials including cubes, modelling clay, glue, etc.
A diffraction kind of kit containing 20 cards, each presenting a problem or a situation to stimulate lively discussion, but, as the title suggests, providing the starting points for deeper investigation and for curriculum development.
Matrices £5.50 + £1.20 p&p
The kit outlines a variety of teaching approaches with overhead projector transparencies to illustrate them and includes offprints showing the use of matrix methods in other subjects such as geography and physics.

Communicating with parents £7.00 + £1.20 p&p
Using examples from a number of schools, the kit covers written communication with parents together with points about parents' evenings. A Numeracy £8.00 + £1.20 p&p
What is numeracy and how can it be taught? The kit contains a large number of offprints, overhead projector transparencies and a sound cassette.
Understanding the decimal system £7.00 + £1.20 p&p
A secure knowledge of place value is essential for all pupils. Aim, and a special interest in mathematics could be an advantage. Other special interests.

Only short-listed applicants will be notified. Please send your application to the Head Teacher, St Anne's Cressant, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 1JG, by June 14, (10455) 110022

Software. SMP Disk: Introduction to Calculus

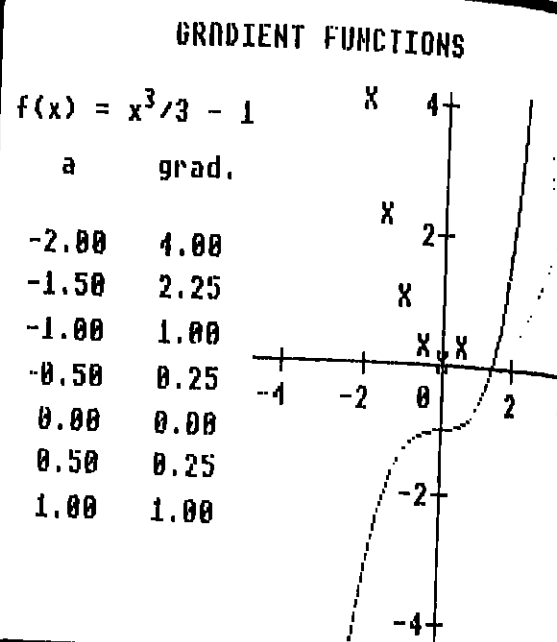
This disk for the BBC microcomputer contains more than 20 programs. Designed primarily for use by an individual student or a small group, they can also be used by a teacher with a class. The programs demand active participation; for example, the student is asked to use a calculator to find an estimate of a gradient and type his/her answer into the computer.

The approach throughout is similar to that used in the Revised Additional Mathematics Book, but the programs can be used to support other calculus courses. There are six sections. **Gradients** explores the idea of average velocity and its limit numerically, and the links with gradients of chords and tangents are made. **In Derived Functions** the user investigates the derived functions of different polynomials (both graphs being drawn), so that a general inference can be made. **Areas** concentrates on definite integrals and leads into the idea of an integral function. The link with 'anti-differentiation' is then made. **Radians** are investigated as a way of ensuring that derived functions have 'simple' forms; π is treated similarly. Then in x (as the area under the graph of $1/x$) is linked to the inverse of the exponential function. The **Numerical Integration** section looks at rectangle methods for estimating areas and at Simpson's Rule.

References are made in the accompanying booklet to further exercise material in both **SMP Revised Advanced Mathematics** and **SMP Revised Additional Mathematics** books, where appropriate.

An order form for the disk is available from the SMP office. The price will be about £20.00.

The SMP disk of programs for A-level (for the RML 3802) is still available from MUSE, Freepost, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 7BR, or from The Computer Education Centre, Liverpool Polytechnic, Rodney House, 70 drives, £6.50 if you have only single-sided disk drives. These prices include postage and packing.



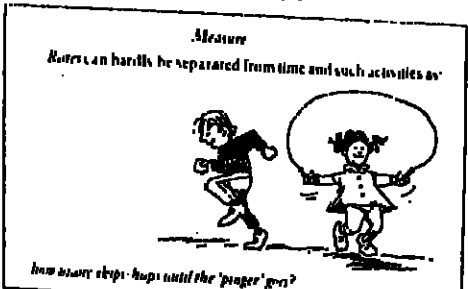
Here is the function $f(x) = x^3/3 - 1$
Tangents will be drawn at $x = a$ for a few values of a . Each gradient will be tabulated and plotted by an X.

Press space-bar to continue

Brief mentions...

Pointers

A resource book of activities with a mathematical basis for teachers to use with young children.
Sections on 'shapes', 'measure' and 'number' show how these ideas can be developed with infants, and those on 'Christmas' and 'shoes' give examples of the mathematical potential of familiar topics. There are also sections on problem-solving and assessment. Links with SMP 7-13 Unit 1 are provided for teachers whose children go on to use this material.



ISBN 0521 27678 0 (Please use this number when ordering.)

Published by Cambridge University Press.

A Subscription List for SMP News

SMP News now appears twice a year as an insert in the Times Educational Supplement. We hope that this method of distribution enables **SMP News** to reach many teachers and schools. However, a number of teachers have asked whether it would be possible to receive a personal copy of each issue. In view of these requests we have set up a subscription list for **SMP News**. Subscribers will receive a copy of each issue by post. These copies, which will be printed on better quality paper, will arrive about four weeks after the issue appears in the TES. The subscription rate will be £1.00 per year (two issues) including postage. If you wish to subscribe to **SMP News** please complete and return the application form opposite with £1.00 for the first year's issues.

Please complete and return the form to SMP, Westfield College, Kidderpore Avenue, London NW3 7ST.

ITeMS

The latest issue of ITeMS (Ideas in the Teaching of Mathematics and Science) contains full ordering details for a wide variety of teaching materials, sources of teaching ideas and articles on mathematics and science education. ITeMS is available from F. R. Watson, Department of Education, University of Keele, Keele, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG. Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope (10" by 12") plus five extra 13p stamps.

SMP User Groups

In the last issue of **SMP News** we gave the address of an **SMP 11-16** user group: Coombe Dean School, Charnhill Way, Elburton, Plymouth, Devon PL9 9ES, telephone Plymouth 46961. Details from Alan Mace. The next meeting of this group will take place on 20 June 1985.

User groups meet to discuss the operation of **SMP 11-16** and to exchange ideas. Other groups have contacted us: **Wolverhampton area** - Keith Cadman (Secretary), Education Department, Teachers' Centre, Beckminster House, Birch Road, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton WV3 7BJ, telephone 0902 337244. **Kingston upon Thames area** - Jan Allcorn (Secretary), Guildhall 2, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 1EU, telephone 01 546 2121 ext. 2607.

Sheffield area - Schools within Sheffield contact Mrs V. Gallivan, Notre Dame School, Cavendish Street, Sheffield S3 7RZ; schools outside Sheffield contact Mr R. M. Turner, Abbeydale Grange School, Hastings Road, Sheffield S7 2GU. **Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside area** - Mr J. Gardiner (Secretary), Head of Mathematics, Hathershaw School, Bellfield Avenue, Oldham OL8 3EP.

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SMP Office,
Westfield College, Kidderpore Avenue, London NW3 7ST

From September 1st 1985
SMP 11-16 matters: SMP Office, Westfield College, Kidderpore Avenue, London NW3 7ST
All other inquiries: School Mathematics Project, The University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH

PRIMARY EDUCATION

continued

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CLARK HILL INFANT SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
An experienced and successful infant teacher to take responsibility for the current trends in the school. To be able to establish a positive working relationship with the staff and to be able to work in a large multi-cultural First School. The successful candidate will have responsibility for a class of 36.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES AREA
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HURRY

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE
SQUAD OPPORTUNITY
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1985
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Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
An experienced and successful infant teacher to take responsibility for the current trends in the school. To be able to establish a positive working relationship with the staff and to be able to work in a large multi-cultural First School. The successful candidate will have responsibility for a class of 36.

DORSET
ST. JOSEPH'S R.C. COMBINED SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
An experienced and successful infant teacher to take responsibility for the current trends in the school. To be able to establish a positive working relationship with the staff and to be able to work in a large multi-cultural First School. The successful candidate will have responsibility for a class of 36.

EALING
LONDON BOROUGH OF
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1985
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EAST SUSSEX
SEAFOOD COUNTRY
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1985
CLARK HILL INFANT SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
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EAST SUSSEX
HAMPDEN PARK COUNTRY
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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EAST SUSSEX
MOULSCOMBE INFANTS
SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
An experienced and successful infant teacher to take responsibility for the current trends in the school. To be able to establish a positive working relationship with the staff and to be able to work in a large multi-cultural First School. The successful candidate will have responsibility for a class of 36.

EAST SUSSEX
ANNEX R.C. (AIDED)
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
An experienced and successful infant teacher to take responsibility for the current trends in the school. To be able to establish a positive working relationship with the staff and to be able to work in a large multi-cultural First School. The successful candidate will have responsibility for a class of 36.

EAST SUSSEX
HIGHFIELD COUNTRY
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1985
CLARK HILL INFANT SCHOOL
Head: Mrs P. D. Meeson
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MID GLAMORGAN
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
TEACHING STAFF
YSGOL GYFUN LLANHAR
Athrô/athrawas gwia gra
nhydduadl dila mo
llanhar / athen llanhar
hdyddu' lath trwy'r ysgol
Edrychir am berson tyld
harod i gyfrannu.
Ffôn at yr amcangyfr
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 Education. (10588). 1536

Number on roll: 1800
TEMPORARY TEACHER O
NCE SELL
Required: September
To teach French up to
Level II possible but certain
ly. E.B. is a very competent
maternity leave. A large
friendly well organised
school on one site with
col. About 1000 pupils
take start French and the re
German
LONDON ALLOWANCE
£1,038.
Application forms/furth
nulars i.s.o.c. please
available from the
Teacher to whom complete
forms should be return
1 July 1985.
An Equal Opportunity

NEWHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF
NEWHAM
ROBEY SCHOOL
Rixford Street, London E
4R2
Head Teacher: Mr A.J.
McQuinnan
A vacancy exists for
TEACHER OF FRENCH
SPANISH Scale 1
Required: September 1982
A vacancy exists for
teacher who is able to
French across the abili-
range to 'C' level as well
provide some spe-

Working towards graded teaching and we are looking for enthusiastic linguists to join our forward-looking team.

LONDON ALLOWANCE
£1,038 plus Social Priorities Allowance.

Application forms (s.s.s.) please, available from T. Head Teacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 11th June 1983.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, Education Office, 379/383 High Street, Stroud, Glos. GL8 3RD.

For Equal Opportunity Employer. (10173) 1336

NEWHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF
S. JOHN'S CATHOLIC
SCHOOL
Grenn Street, London E13
Head Teacher: Mr. E. J. M.
Lawn
Number on roll: 614
REQUIRE A PRIMARY TEACHER OF
FRENCH
Scale 1 (Scale 2 available for
fully qualified candidates)
Requirements: 1188
A Catholic teacher
French to cover a one year
scheme in this 1
Catholic School serving
multicultural community
LONDON ALLOWANCE

please) available from The
 Head Teacher to whom com-
 pleted forms should be re-
 turned by 14th June 1985.
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
 Education Officers
 157/393 High Street, Strat-
 ford, E14 4RD.
 An Equal Opportunity Em-
 ployer. (10176) 15362

NORFOLK
HEWETT SCHOOL
 Cecil Road, Norwich NR1
 2PL

TEACHER OF GERMAN
Required to work with
'A' level groups.
Application forms and
further details from
and returned to the Hand-
writing school, 135622
please. (15310) 135622

**NORTH TYNESIDE
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
NORTH TYNESIDE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MONKSEATON HIGH
SCHOOL**
The School Board, Whiston

Scale 1 TEACHER of GERMAN up to and including 'A' level.
Application forms and further details are available on receipt of a s.a.o. from the person to whom they should be returned as soon as possible.
It is the policy of this Council to provide equal employment opportunities and consideration will be given to all suitably experienced and qualified persons regardless of availability, sex, race or marital status. (104242) 136622

55

WILTSHIRE

COMMITTEE

Mr. Mollath,
The
Secretary
to all
the
SCHOOLS
in the
County of
Wiltshire,
High Street,
Salisbury

September 1981

**MEMBERSHIP OF
THE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE**

For our
c.v. and
names
134222

WILTSHIRE

**HIGHWAY SECONDARY
SCHOOL**
Church Road, Laverstock,
Salisbury

630 Pupils in 15 Years.
Boys' Secondary Modern
(Scale 1)

Required for September
1982 is a LEADER OF
SPECIALIST to join Department
of the Arts and Design
second subject essential.

Please send letter of ap-
plication with CV direct to
the Headmaster.

WILTSHIRE

ST. LAURENCE SCHOOL
 Bradford on Avon
 (Mixed 11 - 18)
 Comprehensive 10 Sixth
 Form (113)
 PHYSICAL EDUCATION -
 SCALE 1
 Issued for September
 temporary teacher of
 Girls' Physical Education.
 Probable maternity leave
 probably two months, but
 there is a possibility of
 becoming a permanent
 appointment.
 Further details and ap-
 plication forms available
 from the Headmaster on
 receipt of statement
 of wages and National In-
 surance application forms
 should be returned to
 school authorities for
 forwarding.

WIMBORNE

SPORTS TEACHER
 134222
 (Wimborne)
 Sports teacher required to supervise sports activities for young overseas students from 12.35.85 to 31.08.85. Position would suit recently qualified teacher in P.E. or related discipline.
 Applications in writing to: J. S. Crosby, King's School, 55 Cranley Road, Bournemouth and Poole (11822) 134222

Religious Education

Head of Department

BEDFORDSHIRE
NORTHERN AREA
STRATTON UPON AVOON
Eagle Farm Road, Higginswade
St. 1, Higginswade, ST 14 5
Headmaster: Mr. B. Farman
2-18 Co-educational
Comprehensive Upper School.
Numbers on Roll: 950
Open for January 1985, a
Head of Sixth Form who will
also be Head of R.E. and
Social Studies, Scale 4.
For further details from the Head, a.s.p.
please, 010307 154418

Scale 1 Posts

AVON COUNTY

Whitechurch, Bristol BS14 9LS
Required for 1st September
1988

AVON COUNTY
NORWICH GROVE SCHOOL
Easton Gardens, Bristol
BA1 9BU
Teacher of Religious Education
with some RE experience.
Studies required. Full-Time -
Fixed term contract - 1 year
1986
Further details from (see
pages), and letters of applica-
tion immediately addressed to:
names of two referees
Name is an equal opportunity
employer; (04086) 34455Z.

580 NORTHERN AREA
STRATTON UPPER SCHOOL

Eagle Farm Road, Bingley Road
 Bingley Road, Bingley Road
 Headmaster, Mr. A. Furness
 13 - 18 Co-educational
 Commuter bus to Queens School.
 Numbers on roll: 1900
 1900
 For the Autumn term only.
 Social Studies, Science and
 Social Studies, Science and
 Application forms and fourth-
 year results available. Admis-
 ter, see please, 112264 124432

CALDERDALE
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL
SECRETARY ON DEPARTMENT
EXLEY SECONDARY
SCHOOL
 Park Lane, Exley, Halifax HX3
 9LG
 Received from August 1984

Application forms and further details obtainable on receipt of (please send) from

the Headteacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 14th June 1985.
(10457) 134422

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—L. I. WESTON

FRIDAY 1179 6EN
Student Boarding/
Catholic
6th Form September
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HIRE

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010
Elementary Day School - 400
St. James Ave., 18
For September 1985
to teach English
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English, U.S. level,
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18149 182424

POOL

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010
Independent School
For September:
to teach ENGLISH
(including for a suit-
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dent). Willingness to help
with duties in the

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(10277) 182424

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AH GRAMMAR

GORDON, London
 Assistant teacher to A.
 from September 1952,
 £4 depending on
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 19484

DASHIRE
ADVENT CONVENT
SCHOOL,
 Abingdon OX14
 Term boarding and day
 £300 girls, 11-18
 September, 1960
 to teach English to
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 In writing to the Head-
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SCHOOL
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SCHOOL
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Lancashire County Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

LANCASTER & MORECAMBE COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION MORECAMBE ROAD, LANCASTER.

4 POSTS - ALL LECTURER GRADE 1 - £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

(1) ACCOUNTANCY

(2) SECRETARIAL STUDIES

(3) SOCIAL SCIENCE

(4) FABRICATION WELDING, PANEL BEATING.

Required 1st September 1985.

Form/further details from/to The Principal at the College, SAE please.

PRESTON W. R. TUSON COLLEGE ST. VINCENT'S ROAD, FULWOOD

LECTURER GRADE 1 - DIVISION OF BUSINESS STUDIES. OFFICE PRACTICE AND SECRETARIAL SKILLS.

Required 1st September 1985 or as soon as possible thereafter. Form/further details from/to The Chief Administrative Officer at the College, SAE please.

BURNLEY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY, SHOREY BANK, OFF ORMEROD ROAD, BURNLEY

2 POSTS

(1) LECTURER GRADE 1 - £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

LECTURER II IN ENGLISH FROM TRAINED GRADUATES IN ENGLISH WITH 'O' AND 'A' LEVEL TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

Required September 1985.

(2) ASSOCIATE LECTURER. £3,548 - £9,307 p.a. (PROPORTION OF LECTURER GRADE) (SALARY) ASSOCIATE LECTURER IN COMPUTING TO TEACH CLASSES RANGING FROM BTEC COURSES TO 'A' LEVEL.

Required as soon as possible.

Form/further details from/to THE TWO ABOVE POSTS from/to The Principal at the College, SAE please.

The closing date for ALL THE ABOVE POSTS is 13th June 1985.

(18109)

WALTHAM FOREST COLLEGE

Department of Health Education

Lecturer I HEALTH EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the above post commencing in September 1985. Applicants should have a degree in Biological Sciences/Behavioural Sciences preferably with a teaching qualification. The successful candidate will be required to teach 'O' level Human Biology and Health related subjects to a variety of caring courses. He/she will act as tutor to pre-nursing students.

Salary £6,588 to £11,190 according to age and experience.

Application forms from the College Personnel Services Officer, Waltham Forest College, Forest Road, Waltham, London, E17 4JL.

Telephone: 01-527 2311. Ext. 259.

Closing date: 14th June 1985.

(18048)

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Applicants are considered for the suitability for the post regardless of disability sex, race and marital status



exeter college

Hele Road Exeter EX4 4JS

Applications are invited for the following post:

LECTURER GRADE I COMPUTING SYSTEMS

Essential qualities needed are:

- graduate or equivalent qualifications
- industrial/commercial experience desirable
- teaching experience

Application forms and further particulars (SAE) obtainable from the Principal at the above address.

(18107)

COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION

(continued)

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

WORCESTER COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the following ONE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT FROM 1 September 1985:

(A) DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES Lecturer I in SOCIOLOGY.

Candidates should be well qualified with successful experience in teaching 'A'/'O' Level Sociology.

(B) DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES:

Lecturer I to teach WORD PROCESSING AND OFFICE PRACTICE.

To teach Word Processing on post 'A' level and post 'O' level courses. In Office Practice, to teach 'O' level and 'A' level courses.

Salary Scale: £5,910 - £10,512 p.a. starting point dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Principal, North Worcester College, School Drive, Stratford Road, Worcester B6 1BB.

Worcester Technical College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

LECTURER GRADE I - STATISTICS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Applications are invited for the above post which involves teaching Statistics, Computing and Mathematics to a wide range of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

TEMPORARY LECTURER GRADE I - BIOLOGY

Applicants should be able to teach a wide variety of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

Applicants must possess a degree or a professional qualification in Biology, preferably with a teaching qualification and/or research experience.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

LECTURER GRADE I IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

To teach Electrical Engineering and Electronics to Craft and Technician courses.

Applicants should be suitably qualified, have appropriate industrial and/or research experience, and preferably be a teacher.

Salary: Lecturer Grade I £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

(Position on scale dependent on qualifications and experience).

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Principal, Worcester College, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 1JL upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, enclosing a recent passport size photograph and a covering letter.

Closing date: 14th June 1985.

Application forms available on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, enclosing a recent passport size photograph and a covering letter.

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Closing date: 14th June 1985.

HOUNSLOW METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the following ONE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT FROM 1 September 1985:

(A) DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES Lecturer I in SOCIOLOGY.

Candidates should be well qualified with successful experience in teaching 'A'/'O' Level Sociology.

(B) DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES:

Lecturer I to teach WORD PROCESSING AND OFFICE PRACTICE.

To teach Word Processing on post 'A' level and post 'O' level courses. In Office Practice, to teach 'O' level and 'A' level courses.

Salary Scale: £5,910 - £10,512 p.a. starting point dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Principal, North Worcester College, School Drive, Stratford Road, Worcester B6 1BB.

Worcester Technical College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

LECTURER GRADE I - STATISTICS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Applications are invited for the above post which involves teaching Statistics, Computing and Mathematics to a wide range of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

TEMPORARY LECTURER GRADE I - BIOLOGY

Applicants should be able to teach a wide variety of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

Applicants must possess a degree or a professional qualification in Biology, preferably with a teaching qualification and/or research experience.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

LECTURER GRADE I IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

To teach Electrical Engineering and Electronics to Craft and Technician courses.

Applicants should be suitably qualified, have appropriate industrial and/or research experience, and preferably be a teacher.

Salary: Lecturer Grade I £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

(Position on scale dependent on qualifications and experience).

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Principal, Worcester College, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 1JL upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, enclosing a recent passport size photograph and a covering letter.

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Closing date: 14th June 1985.

HUMBERSIDE COUNTY COUNCIL

Applications are invited for the following ONE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT FROM 1 September 1985:

(A) DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES Lecturer I in SOCIOLOGY.

Candidates should be well qualified with successful experience in teaching 'A'/'O' Level Sociology.

(B) DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES:

Lecturer I to teach WORD PROCESSING AND OFFICE PRACTICE.

To teach Word Processing on post 'A' level and post 'O' level courses. In Office Practice, to teach 'O' level and 'A' level courses.

Salary Scale: £5,910 - £10,512 p.a. starting point dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Principal, North Worcester College, School Drive, Stratford Road, Worcester B6 1BB.

Worcester Technical College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

LECTURER GRADE I - STATISTICS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Applications are invited for the above post which involves teaching Statistics, Computing and Mathematics to a wide range of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

TEMPORARY LECTURER GRADE I - BIOLOGY

Applicants should be able to teach a wide variety of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

Applicants must possess a degree or a professional qualification in Biology, preferably with a teaching qualification and/or research experience.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

LECTURER GRADE I IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

To teach Electrical Engineering and Electronics to Craft and Technician courses.

Applicants should be suitably qualified, have appropriate industrial and/or research experience, and preferably be a teacher.

Salary: Lecturer Grade I £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

(Position on scale dependent on qualifications and experience).

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Principal, Worcester College, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 1JL upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, enclosing a recent passport size photograph and a covering letter.

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Closing date: 14th June 1985.

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HODDERSFIELD COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the following ONE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT FROM 1 September 1985:

(A) DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES Lecturer I in SOCIOLOGY.

Candidates should be well qualified with successful experience in teaching 'A'/'O' Level Sociology.

(B) DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES:

Lecturer I to teach WORD PROCESSING AND OFFICE PRACTICE.

To teach Word Processing on post 'A' level and post 'O' level courses. In Office Practice, to teach 'O' level and 'A' level courses.

Salary Scale: £5,910 - £10,512 p.a. starting point dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Principal, North Worcester College, School Drive, Stratford Road, Worcester B6 1BB.

Worcester Technical College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

LECTURER GRADE I - STATISTICS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Applications are invited for the above post which involves teaching Statistics, Computing and Mathematics to a wide range of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

TEMPORARY LECTURER GRADE I - BIOLOGY

Applicants should be able to teach a wide variety of courses ranging from 'O' level to 'A' level to BTEC courses.

Applicants must possess a degree or a professional qualification in Biology, preferably with a teaching qualification and/or research experience.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

LECTURER GRADE I IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

To teach Electrical Engineering and Electronics to Craft and Technician courses.

Applicants should be suitably qualified, have appropriate industrial and/or research experience, and preferably be a teacher.

Salary: Lecturer Grade I £5,910 - £10,512 p.a.

(Position on scale dependent on qualifications and experience).

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Principal, Worcester College, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 1JL upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, enclosing a recent passport size photograph and a covering letter.

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Closing date: 14th June 1985.

Continued

LONDON E17
YMCA NATIONAL COLLEGE
 Tutor
 To students on Certificate Course in Youth & Community Work.
 Principal function is as personal tutor to mature students. Ability to teach other Management, Race Relations, or Religion & Society advantageous.
 Salary: Barnham lecturer £27,348 - £32,099 plus L.A. £475.
 Starting date: Either 1st September or 1st October, 1985.
 Closing date for applications 14th June 1985.
 Details from: Registrar, YMCA National College, 442 Forest Rd., London E17 3EF (10508) 440000

Inner London Education Authority
YOUTH SERVICE
SPECIALIST YOUTH WORKER
 (Development of work with Lesbian and Gay young people) Salary range £10,860 - £13,504 plus £1,419 London Weighting Allowance.
 Applications are invited from experienced youth workers interested in the development of work with Lesbian and Gay young people. This is a new post. The successful candidate will be responsible for work with young people, multi-ethnic work and work with the handicapped.
 Application forms and further details from Personnel Services Division (ED/Estab 18) Room 566, The County Hall, London SE1 7PS (please enclose a large S.A.E.).
 Closing date for the return of completed application forms is 21 June 1985.
ILEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.
 110328 440000

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WORKER
LONDON CENTRAL YMCA
 112 Great Eastern Street, London WC1B 3NQ
 Applications are invited for the post of **DEPUTY GENERAL PROGRAMME AND SERVICE DIRECTOR**.
 Applicants should possess a qualification in Youth and Community Work, and have the ability to identify and creatively respond to community needs.
 The post is to the service of London Central YMCA and will be a full-time role.
 Salary: JNC scale 3.
 Applications in the first instance should be made to Mr R.B. Clifton Executive Director at the above address.
 The YMCA is an equal opportunity employer.
 110340 440000

NEWHAM
WOODGRANGE BAPTIST CHURCH
 Forest Gate E7
 An energetic, qualified and experienced full-time Youth and Community worker, or teacher in a secondary school, is required for the post of **Wardens at the above voluntary multi-racial centre, which is a grant-aided by the London Borough of Newham Education Committee**.
 A person who is in sympathy with the Christian aims of the centre is sought, who is able to assist, develop and coordinate already established activities and projects. Salary will be JNC range four points 1-5 plus Inner London Allowance of £1,038. For an informal discussion ring the Chairman of the Management Committee on 087 788501.
 Written details and application forms from The Chairman, Finance Committee, 245 London Road, Forest Gate, London E7 8AA. 440000 (10443)

OVERDALE ESTATE, TELFORD
 Person appointed will work in a District Team covering the South Wirkin District Area.
 INSTEP approved Staff Development Policy.
 Salary JNC Range 3, pts. 2-6, £8,103 to £9,087 + £363 for approved additional qualifications.
 Further details, job description and application form from County Education Officer (STA/108), Shirehall, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Telephone 0743 222515. (17088)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER/ORGANISER
 Applications are invited from experienced and qualified persons for the post of Community Youth Worker/Organiser based at Wellingborough for the Eastern Team. The team is responsible for providing a comprehensive programme of social education to all young people in the area and the emphasis of the post is working 'in the field'.
 Duties will include development of projects, training events and involve a lot of work with young people and adults in the area, and running the youth programme. The post holder will work closely with the ethnic minority community involved with the 13-19 age group.
 Salary: JNC Scale 4, £10,491.
 Further details and application forms from: County Education Officer, Community Youth Service, Planning & Northamptonshire, Northampton NN1 1JN. Tel: 0460 211111. Closing date for applications: 14th June 1985. 440000 (10821)

WEST LAMORAN
NEATH BOYS' CLUB
 NEATH (full time)
 Applicants should be qualified in accordance with JNC Scale 3 points 1-5.
 Further details and application forms from: Neath Boys' Club, 14th June 1985. 440000 (10821)

WALTHAM FOREST
 AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
 Applicants are considered for their suitability for the post on the basis of ability, experience, and race and marital status.

STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
UNEMPLOYMENT PROJECTS
 The person appointed will be responsible for developing and maintaining a range of activities designed to help unemployed young people. Minimum qualification is the achievement of full-time Youth Training Scheme. Application forms and further details from: Mr. G.H. Russell (Youth Officer), Leisure Services Division, Town Hall, Stockport SK1 1LH. Tel: 061-480 4849. Fax: 061-480 4849. 440000 (10407)

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
SCHOOL YOUTH WORKER
 West Woking
 £9,348 - £10,467
 To provide a link between the Youth and Community Service and the secondary schools within the Education Area, by developing and supporting the Education Area's Awards Scheme and co-ordinating the Education and Personal Education Programme.
 The person appointed will be a person appointed to the Youth and Community Service, and will be a member of the Education Area's Awards Scheme.
 Further details and application forms from: Mr. David Clifton, North Wokingham Education Office, Community Youth Service, Planning & Northamptonshire, Northampton NN1 1JN. Tel: 0460 211111. Closing date for applications: 14th June 1985. 440000 (10821)

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
YOUTH & COMMUNITY WORKER
 Guildford Park
 £8,154 - £9,109
 To investigate the needs of young people in the Guildford Park Estate for the purpose of providing a range of opportunities for them to develop their self-awareness and individuality through a range of social education, leisure and sports activities.
 Further details and application forms from: Mr. David Clifton, North Wokingham Education Office, Community Youth Service, Planning & Northamptonshire, Northampton NN1 1JN. Tel: 0460 211111. Closing date for applications: 14th June 1985. 440000 (10821)

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OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS
SMALL LANGUAGE SCHOOLS
 require qualified teachers, September 1985.
 B. Sidi and photo, Corfu, Greece. (10884000)

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GERMANY
Required for September 1985 or January 1986. Infant Teacher. Vertically grouped 1st and 2nd year infants. Freehold approach. 2nd year contract renewal. Salary range £10,000-£12,000. Applications with full c.v., passport photo and referees to: Headmaster, British Embassy Preparatory School, Tulpenberg, W. 100, Holderhof, 5300 Bonn 2, W. Germany. (10398) 460000

GREECE
TEACHING IN GREECE
Language School in Egea (Northern Greece) seeks teachers for English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Persian, Arabic, Hebrew, Yiddish, etc. Salary range £10,000-£12,000. Applications with full c.v., passport photo and referees to: Headmaster, British Embassy Preparatory School, Tulpenberg, W. 100, Holderhof, 5300 Bonn 2, W. Germany. (10398) 460000

ASSISTANT MARKETING MANAGER OVERSEAS DIVISION
Applications are invited for the post of Assistant Marketing Manager in the Overseas Division. The successful applicant will report to the International Marketing Manager and will be responsible for the marketing of the UK Primary and Secondary lists in all international markets, as well as undertaking specific administrative responsibilities within the Division. Applicants should be able to demonstrate their ability to maintain a sound administrative function as well as the potential to sell the appropriate lists in the market place. An attractive salary will be offered, commensurate with the candidate's experience and qualifications. Applicants should apply in writing to: Carol Baylis, Thomas Nelson and Sons Ltd, Nelson House, Mayfield Road, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12 5PL.

SAUDI ARABIA
TEACHERS - TEFL
Married couple - instructors in the English Language Department of the Al-Sudary Foundation in Al-Jouf. Duties: - Teaching English, at mainly beginner level (with some intermediate and advanced students), up to 20 hours per week. Qualifications: - Candidates must be in the age range 25-40 years (no accompanying children) both should hold degree, TEFL qualification and followed by a minimum of 3 years English (TEFL) teaching experience - experience of teaching Arabic beginners advantageous. Salaries: - each SR 6,000 per month, with annual increments, local transport allowance SR 600 per month. In addition bonuses as applicable. (C) = SR 4.8 approximately. Benefits: - Free furnished accommodation, medical insurance, leave (paid) 5 weeks per year plus tickets, local holidays and a baggage allowance of SR 2,000 on first appointment. Contract: - Initially 1 year, commencing late August 1985, thereafter renewable annually. Closing date for applications 25 June 1985. Please send C.V.'s to: Al-Sudary Foundation, c/o Suite 1, 4th Floor, 1 Great Cumberland Place, London W1H 7AL. (18065)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AGENCY
TEACHING POSITIONS 1986
Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for positions in International Curriculum Primary and High Schools in Papua New Guinea to commence late January 1986. In High schools, teaching positions exist in all subjects. Senior positions available in computer studies in high school with 14 BBC computers connected by Econet. Conditions of service include 3 year contracts, gratuity, leave fares and educational allowance. Salary range K10,280 P.A. (Exchange rate K1 = UK 77). Short listed applicants will be interviewed in London. Applications to: Education Secretary, International Education Agency, P.O. Box 8674, Boroko, Papua New Guinea. Telephone: 253814 (BH); 258361 (AH). Tlx: N223052. Applications close 30th June 1985. (18061)

THE BRITISH SCHOOLS OF MONZA AND NOVARA
Require E.F.L. Teachers (4 posts) Degree and R.S.A. Prep. min. grade 8 or equivalent. Salary range £10,000-£12,000. Interviews July, London. Applications to: British School of Monza, Via Vittorio Emanuele, 30051 Monza, Italy. Tel: 039 561665. (18062)

JAPAN
Established international school teaching British curriculum. Requires Middle Infant Teachers for September 1985. Commencing salary from £7,400. Accommodation provided. Fares paid. Two year contract. Please apply with CV to: Mr. P. J. Smith, Gabbits-Thring, 6 & 8 Backville Street, Piccadilly, London W1X 2BT. Tel: 01-734 0161. (10537) 460000

SPAIN
ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
Urbanization Ricmar, Carrizosa Cadiz-Málaga Km 190.5. Marbella, Málaga - Spain. Qualified and preferably experienced teacher of French and Spanish to teach the subjects throughout the school to A level. Spanish particularly is a very important subject, and a high level of fluency is essential. Letters of application, with full CV, should be sent to the school as quickly as possible. Also required, a teacher of English to O and A. 460000 (10708)

THE GAMBIA
MARINA INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Primary School Teacher. Salary range £10,000-£12,000. Applications to: Marina International, P.O. Box 17, Banjul, The Gambia. (10497) 460000

TURKEY
Required for September: Good EFL teachers for Secondary School Ankara. For further details, send cv to: K. Ertokdemir, M.A., Bosphorus, 80010, Istanbul, Turkey. Tel: 0212 255 255. (10585)

WANTED T.E.F.L. TEACHERS
preferably a married couple from autumn 1985 to summer 1986. A fully furnished flat is available. Write to: Mrs. Perdikopoulou-Nearchou, 20 Agios Eleutherios, 57100 Xanthi-Greece. (10416) 460000

WEST GERMANY
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Requires for Sept. 1985 an enthusiastic full-time teacher to join the department of Visual Education. Flexibility and experience with multimedia approaches will be an advantage. Apply immediately to: Dieter Hachmann, International School, 20, Hamburg Road, West Germany. (10585) 460000

Teachers
A married couple for the Middle East
Here is an interesting and unique opportunity to gain experience in an overseas environment. You will be required to teach the children of British expatriate families employed by a major European contractor in Riyadh, the Royal Capital of Saudi Arabia. Two plus years' primary school experience necessary. One teacher is required for 3-5 year olds and the other for children in the 7-8 year age group. Subjects to include French language, music and art. Excellent free accommodation and recreational facilities are offered together with generous tax free salaries, free medical/accident insurance coverage etc. Please send full details quoting Ref. 64C/TES. Webb Whitley Associates Limited, International Recruitment Consultants, 45 High Street, Kensington, London W8 5ED. Tel: 01 937 8586.

Webb Whitley Associates Limited

JORDAN
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Amman
(A multi-national English medium school for 250 boys and girls aged 4-13 years.)
Required for September 1985 a Teacher of MATHEMATICS for children of Middle School age. A knowledge of Computer Science will be an added advantage. Preference will be given to suitably qualified applicants with appropriate experience who have worked overseas previously. The initial contract will be for two years (until July 1987). Salary will be based upon the Burnham Scales plus Inner London Weighting plus 30% overseas allowance. Free furnished accommodation, a return air fare, medical cover, a clothing allowance, superannuation etc. are all included in the contract. It is hoped that interviews will take place in early July in London and those teachers returning from other overseas posts are most welcome to apply. Applications plus a full c.v., open references, a recent photograph and the names of two confidential referees should be sent to the Headmaster, The International Community School, P.O. Box 2002, Amman, Jordan. (18066)

MAPS COLLEGE
INCORPORATED
A non-profit Association
Boys Boarding Day School
Roll 153, Ave Road 10-11
Through to G level and
C.C. needed for the Sept.
ber Term 1985.
Single, Graduate for
Physics and Chemistry. Boarding
Duties essential. Residency
provided. Write to: C.V. Passport
photo and two referees to:
Testimonials to the Secretary
(104053) 460000

International Voluntary Service
TEACHERS FOR MOZAMBIQUE

IVS is recruiting volunteers for the following posts:
Primary school teachers for Kindergarten, EFL, art, remedial, general teaching posts. Secondary school teachers (to O level, EFL, maths, physics, chemistry, biology, geography, french, etc.), drawing, music, history, drama and social science (to A level). Posts are at the International School in Maputo. Successful applicants will be posted from January 1986. Two years post qualification experience required. 2 year contract including modest living allowance and light. Regret not funding for dependants. Applicants must be residents of the UK or Ireland. For further details send short c.v. and large a.s.s. to: Ross Gorrings, Dept TS14 International Voluntary Service, 9 Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 8YL.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Service Children's Education Authority

Senior Teaching Appointments
In North West Europe for January 1986
The Ministry of Defence invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced individuals for the following posts in Germany which are to be filled from the spring term 1986, if possible.
Headteacher
Dafon Middle School (Group 5)
A suitably qualified and experienced teacher is required for this school catering for 6-13 year olds. The school is situated on the outskirts of Düsseldorf on the Rhine. The school was purpose built in 1974 and currently has a role of 300 pupils. The teacher appointed will be expected to show a commitment to Middle School ethos and philosophy as developed over the years, whilst at the same time showing an awareness of likely curriculum development in the late 80's.
Deputy Headteacher
Victoria Primary School Dortmund (Group 5)
An experienced teacher is required for the Deputy Headship of a primary school which consists of 2 units of open-plan and 2 units of traditional design. Candidates, although expected to be responsible for a major area of the curriculum, must be willing to be involved in all aspects concerning the professional development of the school. There will be a full time responsibility for a junior class in addition to administrative duties. At present the school has a roll of 250 children and a staff of 15. An ability to drive would be preferred. For all posts, Salary is in accordance with the current Burnham Scales. In addition, the London Area Allowance currently £100 per annum is payable. Foreign Service Allowance. A tax free allowance is payable. Superannuation - normal rights are safeguarded. Accommodation is provided rent free or an allowance towards the rent is payable. Duration of Employment - initially for a period of 3 years. All applicants should be normally resident in the United Kingdom. Applicants should note that teachers do not normally serve in Service Children's Schools abroad after the academic year in which they reach the age of 50 and, therefore, the preferred age is under 47 at the commencement of the engagement. The Civil Service is an equal opportunities employer. Requests for an application form and further details about these posts should be made to: Ministry of Defence, GMS(S) 103, Room 343, Lagoon House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RY or by telephone on 01-430 6504. The closing date for completed application forms is Friday 21 June 1985. (18150)

SGEA

Vocational Training Council HONG KONG

The Council, established in 1982 as a statutory body with the broad objectives of developing technical education and industrial training in Hong Kong invites applications from suitable persons for the following post.

Lecturer (Graduate) (Optometry)

Qualifications: (a) a degree in optometry/physics/mechanical engineering/production engineering from a Hong Kong or British University, AND (i) a diploma in education plus 4 years' relevant post-degree experience; OR (ii) 6 years' relevant post-degree experience; (b) corporate membership of an appropriate recognised professional institution; OR (c) (i) fulfilled the academic requirements for corporate membership of an appropriate recognised professional institution; OR (ii) a relevant technical qualification PLUS 7 years' relevant post-qualification experience in either case. Post-degree/qualification experience must include 3 years of lens manufacturing experience.
Duties: To teach Post Form 5 course students in the Technical Institutes on optical subjects such as optical tool design, materials, optical science etc. and to take charge of the Optical Study Programmes.
Conditions: The post attracts a monthly salary of HK\$8,625-HK\$12,460 (£1=HK\$9.74 as at 14 May 1985 but this is subject to fluctuation) depending on qualification and experience. The appointee will be offered a contract of 2 years inclusive of leave. He will be given terminal gratuity at 25% of basic salary upon satisfactory completion of the agreement. Fringe benefits include leave and passages, housing, medical and dental treatments, children's education allowances and school passages.
For further information and an application form, write to Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LB, quoting reference APPT/VTC/O. Closing date for acceptance of completed application forms: 21st June 1985.

ADMINISTRATION LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

BOROUGH DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
INSET has a vacancy for an
Information and Advice Officer
£9,780-£10,362 (Scale 6)
INSET (Information and Advice Network on Southwark Education and Training) operates a shopfront advice centre on education and training for adults, situated in Packham's busy Rye Lane. Persons wishing to apply for this post should have had experience in interviewing and should be familiar with the post-school education and training system. They should also be able to demonstrate that they can work on their own initiative and as part of a small team. Among others, one of INSET's main target groups is the black community and it is desirable that applicants have skills/experience relevant to this aspect of the work. Salary figures are inclusive of £1,248 London Weighting. Southwark is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are welcome from candidates regardless of sex or ethnic origin and from registered disabled persons. Telephone 01-701 2870 (24-hour answering service) any time for an application form, or write, on a postcard, to: The Personnel Officer, London Borough of Southwark, 25 Commercial Way, London SE16 8DG. Please quote ref. TES/4/8470 and job title. Last date for receipt of completed Application Form: 21.8.85. (18147)

Southwark a London borough

Temporary Careers Officer

Scale 6 £8,532 - £9,114 p.a. plus £1,017 (L.W. and Supplements)
A qualified Careers Officer is required for this temporary post in Willesden Careers Office for up to one year to cover the absence of the permanent post holder on maternity leave. The person appointed will undertake the full range of Career Officers' duties as part of a team working in the southern half of the Borough. Application forms and job descriptions from the Personnel Division, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9BR returnable by 21st June, telephone 01 903 0371 (24 hour Ansafone service.). Reference number E/875 must be quoted. (18100)

London Borough of BRENT
Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Job sharers welcome.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CAREERS SERVICE
Applications are invited for the following vacancies in the Derbyshire Careers Service:
HIGH PEAK AND WEST DERBYSHIRE AREA
Our Careers Officer based at Matlock Careers Office, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5AG. This post is for one year to replace a Careers Officer who has been seconded to the TVEI project. The post might be extended if the secondment is renewed after one year. It is an equal opportunity post. Salary range £11,254-£13,284. Closing date 14 June 1985.
AMBER VALLEY & EREWASH AREA
Our Temporary Careers Officer based at Alfreton Careers Office. This post is for one year to replace a Careers Officer who has been seconded to the TVEI project. The post might be extended if the secondment is renewed after one year. It is an equal opportunity post. Salary range £11,254-£13,284. Closing date 14 June 1985.

BRADFORD METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
CAREERS SERVICE
Applications are invited for the following vacancies in the Bradford Careers Service:
BRADFORD AREA
Our Careers Officer based at Bradford Careers Office, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD4 5AG. This post is for one year to replace a Careers Officer who has been seconded to the TVEI project. The post might be extended if the secondment is renewed after one year. It is an equal opportunity post. Salary range £11,254-£13,284. Closing date 14 June 1985.

Assistant Director of Education (Educational Establishment)

£17,295 - £18,831 (75% Chief Officer Scale)
This vacancy has arisen following the promotion of John Marsden to Chief Education Officer in Sutton. The post holder is responsible for the day to day management of schools and further education provision. This is one of three Assistant Director posts in the Education Division, each of which reports directly to the Director of Education. Application forms and further particulars are available from: A.L. Wilson, Chief Executive, Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE or by telephoning R.A. Harvey on 061-480 4949 ext. 3207. Closing date: 21st June 1985. (18122)

STOCKPORT
An Equal Opportunities Employer

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Principal Careers Officer

Salary Range P02 (£11,259 - £12,243) plus London Weighting. Casual Car User Allowance.
Applications are invited for the post of Principal Careers Officer to lead the Careers Service in succession to the present postholder who is retiring. The principal officer is responsible for the provision of vocational guidance to young people in schools and colleges throughout the Borough. It is hoped to make the appointment from 1st September 1985. Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Chief Education Officer (FE/PCO), Town Hall, Barking, Essex, IG11 7LU, or phone 01-694 3880 Ext. 318. Completed application forms to be returned not later than 17th June 1985.

London Borough of BARKING and DAGENHAM
an equal opportunity employer

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
CAREERS OFFICER

Scale 3 £6,579 - £7,077 or Scale 4 £7,212 - £7,986 or Scale 5 £8,181 - £8,919 Inc. p.a.
Starting salary subject to qualification and experience. We seek a qualified and preferably experienced person for the Advice and Guidance Team which is situated at Richmond Tertiary College, with whom there are close working links. The post presents an unusual opportunity to work equally with school pupils and further education students of all abilities following CSE/GCE courses and a wide range of vocational courses. For an informal discussion contact Hugo Briggs 01-891-0761. Form and further details from Non-Teaching Personnel Section, Education Department, Regal House, London Road, Twickenham TW1 3QB (01-891-1433, ext. 255) closing date 14th June 1985.

London Borough of RICHMOND UPON THAMES
an equal opportunity employer

(18098)

Administration General

KENT
GENERAL
ADMINISTRATION
SCHOOL WAGES
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT
Required from 1st August for
Independent School.
Applications to The Head-
master, Holy Trinity Con-
vent School, 3 Playford
Lane, Bromley, BR1 3JL. Tel:
01-460 1713. (x6615) 300000

OXFORD
DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL OF
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
WELFARE OFFICER
Full-time duties include
assistance with students
and health problems.
School's domestic arrange-
ments. Including staff super-
vision. Car essential. Salary
according to experience.
Written applications to The
Director, 38 London Road,
Reading Oxford OX3 7PP.
041111 300000

Adviser (Microelectronics and Mathematics in Education) £11,782

The British Council, a worldwide educational and cultural organisation, is looking for someone with experience in microelectronics in education and mathematics education to monitor development and manage its activities in these fields. The Adviser will be expected to be familiar with UK resources at school and further educational level and in teacher education and to provide up-to-date information and advice on curricula, hardware, software and other teaching materials, training courses, facilities and consultancy services to staff in the UK and overseas. The postholder will also manage relevant revenue-earning and aid-work projects and will contribute to internal and external publications.

Applicants must have a British degree in a relevant subject area, preferably in mathematics or computer science. A postgraduate qualification in education, teacher training experience, and recent involvement in curriculum development projects are desirable. One or two year contract. Salary on appointment £11,782 including London Weighting.

For further details and an application form to be returned by 5 July write or phone quoting E/3 to Personnel Management Department, The British Council, 65, Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA, tel. 01-499 8011 ext. 3191 or 3588.

The British Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



Science Education Adviser £11,782

The British Council, a worldwide educational and cultural organisation, is looking for an adviser with suitable qualifications and experience to head its advisory section on science education. The section maintains up-to-date information on British resources in science education and develops contacts between those and their overseas counterparts. The person appointed will also provide professional support for aid-funded personnel in key appointments overseas.

Applicants must have a British degree in a science subject, an educational qualification and UK and overseas work experience in science education at school and preferably also tertiary level. A higher degree and wide experience of overseas and UK science education are desirable.

One or two year contract. Salary on appointment £11,782 including London Weighting. For further details and an application form to be returned by 5 July write or phone quoting E/2 to Personnel Management Department, The British Council, 65, Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA. Tel: 01-499 8011 ext. 3191 or 3588.

The British Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



MONMOUTH SCHOOL, MONMOUTH, GWENT NP5 3XP

The Governors of Monmouth School invite applicants for the post of

BURSAR

The successful candidate should be between the age of 35 and should be a man of considerable financial and administrative experience. He should be available to take up the post on September 1st, 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Monmouth School to whom applications should be made. These should include full curriculum vitae, names of two referees and a large SAE. Closing date for applications 22nd June, 1985.

(110054)

THE PEPPER HARROW FOUNDATION THORNBY HALL - NORTHAMPTONSHIRE A DIRECTOR

is required to transform this historic private Manor House into a very special school for emotionally disturbed children of secondary school age. It will be a registered charity and a full member of the Pepper Harrow Foundation.

This post offers an exciting and creative opportunity to develop and apply new ideas in treatment and education; on appointment, the Director will be involved in the planning, staffing and material development of the Community.

Applicants should have experience of working with disturbed children. They should have understanding and preferably have had some experience of the application of psycho-dynamic ideas in the residential setting and they are likely to have held posts in a senior capacity in one of the helping professions.

The salary scales and conditions of service will recognise the required level of effort and creativity, of management skills and of experience.

Please write for further details and application information to: The Executive Director, The Pepper Harrow Foundation, 11 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6AX.

(1018)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The London Borough of Enfield will establish a new college of further education on 1st September 1985 based in part on the existing courses offered by the Edmonton College of Further Education but with a wider role than the existing college which it will replace.

The Chief Administrative Officer, together with the Principal and Vice Principal, will have the central executive responsibility for the College including general management, finance, external relations, staffing and allocation of resources. The Chief Administrative Officer will be responsible for the planning and implementation of the transfer of administrative, clerical and other ancillary support services. Candidates should have a proven record of successful administrative and management experience; an ability to motivate colleagues; qualities of thoroughness and diligence and some knowledge of further education would be an advantage.

The post is graded POE on a salary scale of £11,259 to £12,243 plus £857 per annum London Weighting. Further information and application form available from Education Establishment Section, P.O. Box 55, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XQ. Telephone 01-365 9368.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 14th June 1985.

(18077)

London Borough of

Enfield

An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Enfield

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT 31.5.85

Social Services

HUMBERSIDE COUNTY COUNCIL SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

'THE NEIGHBOURHOOD APPROACH'

Requires an

ASSISTANT PROGRAMME DIRECTOR (TRAINING)

RASC Scale - Grade 11 Pts

45 to 48 Pts 013 to

215.042

To be engaged in a new

and original approach to

delinquency management in

the

HULL

INTENSIVE

SCHEME

The scheme has a base in

the Castle Howard Regional

Community Home, Wal-

burn North Yorkshire,

which, whilst maintaining

some traditional care ac-

tivities and housing, will

be supported by two Cen-

tres in the

Kingston-upon-Hull.

Unit 11.7.5 is being de-

signed to provide a range

of alternatives to custody

and care for young offend-

ers, both boys and girls. The

Scheme will have roots in

Humberside's policy of

promoting and establishing

care in the community by

reducing the need for chil-

dren and young people to

have to be removed for

prolonged periods from

their homes and immediate

environment.

The scheme will be de-

veloped in the lines of 'Cor-

rectional Curriculum' pro-

gramme and the postholder

will make a major contribu-

tion in establishing systems

and facilities to accommo-

date individual children. A

direct responsibility will be

the management of the

teaching staff engaged both

in the Regional Community

Home and the project in

Hull. The person appointed

will need to be totally com-

mitted to the philosophy

presented, their previous

experience will be rele-

vant, enabling her/him to

manage, influence, train

and support staff within the

scheme.

A teaching qualification

is essential and either a

social work qualification or

a social work background is

very necessary.

If you can meet what will

be a major challenge. We

want to hear from you. If

you are interested, please

write to: The Programme

Director, Humberside

County Council, 14th Floor,

County House, 14th Floor,

14th Floor, 14th Floor,

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Miscellaneous

LAB TECHNICIAN

Full-time Lab Technician

required to be responsible

for maintenance and prac-

tical preparation of Chem-

istry, Biology and Physics

labs for GCE O and A level

students. Preference will

be given to candidates pos-

sessing the relevant qualifi-

cations in O/C/JND, BTEC

Certificate in Science, or

equivalent. Salary scale

£4,000-£8,000 p.a. ac-

cording to qualification and

experience.

Letters of application and

C.V.s should be sent to:

Director of Studies, Lass-

downs School, 5 Palace

Gate, London W8 5JG.

01-812 1012.

NEWHAM

LONDON BOROUGH OF

NEWHAM

MULTICULTURAL/ANTI-

RACIST EDUCATION

SUPPORT TEAM Scale of post:

7/3

Required: January 1986 or as

soon as possible.

The successful candidate will

work with the anti-racist/multi-

cultural team. Experience of

teaching in multi-racial

schools essential. First-hand

knowledge of other cultures/

languages an advantage. Team

members are expected to con-

tribute to in-service educa-

tional work.

Application forms (s.e.e.)

please send to: The

Director of Education to whom

completed forms should be

returned by 11th June 1985.

Education Office, 379/383

High Street, Stratford E15

4RD.

An Equal Opportunity Em-

ployer. (0170) 660000

NOTTINGHAM

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Clifton

Members of the staff and stu-

dents of the College are cordi-

ally invited to a social work

background is very necessary.

If you can meet what will

be a major challenge. We

want to hear from you. If

you are interested, please

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